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Sir Thomas Double  
A T 4  
C O U R T,  
A N D I N  
High Preferments.

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I N  
*Two DIALOGUES,*  
B E T W E E N  
*Sir THOMAS DOUBBLE*  
A N D  
*Sir RICHARD COMOVER,*  
*ALIAS*  
*Mr. WHIGLOVE:*  
On the 27th of September, 1710.

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P A R T I.

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*Ecce iterum Crispinus, & est mihi sæpe vocandus  
Ad partes, Monstrum nulla virtute redemptum  
A vitiis. ——— Juv. Sat. 4.*

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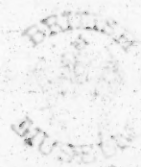
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THE FIRST  
DIALOGUE

BETWEEN

*Sir Thomas Double*

AND

*Sir Richard Comover.*

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PART I.

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Sir T. D. **I**S there such a Man alive as Mr. *Whiglove*? Pray how long have you been in Town?

Sir R. C. I came *Friday* Night; and am glad to find you with such an Air of Health and Prosperity. You are one of the first Persons I have visited.

Sir *T. D.* You do me too much Honour. But I must beg Pardon for calling you Mr. *Whiglove* ; for I hear your Grandfather, by the Mother's side, has oblig'd you to take his Arms and Name : And knowing his Title of Baronet was to descend to you ; I am to wish you Joy of the great Estate fall'n to you by his Death, and crave leave to salute you by the Name of Sir *Richard Comover*.

Sir *R. C.* My good Grandfather has, indeed, left me *Sutton-Comover*, with upwards of Four Thousand Pounds a Year about it. But at the same time permit me to Congratulate with you, (tho' perhaps it may be somewhat of the latest) upon your being Knighted ; which Honour I hear you had conferr'd on you three Years ago ; and upon the Advancement you have since had at Court. Your Old Acquaintance little thought to see you a Knight, and in so high a Post, especially in this Reign.

Sir *T. D.* Stranger things than that have happen'd since you and I last saw one another ; which was towards the latter end of the Year 1701. As to my part, I have rubb'd on in the World well enough. My Estate is vastly improv'd, and by the same Arts 'twas first rais'd : My Original Obscurity is forgotten ; I am welcome to all, flatter'd by most Companies ; and my Wealth has given me such a new Lustre, that, a few Months ago, my Ambition would not have been censur'd, in aspiring to much higher Matters. But now the Face of Affairs seems to be alter'd. New Lords, new Laws. Such  
as

as I, who cannot pretend to much Merit of our own, and are the meer Creatures of a *Party*, cannot be without Apprehensions; when we see that *Party* unhing'd and unsettl'd. I am afraid 'tis but too visible, that our Interest declines. We are become suspected to the Crown, we have lost our Popularity in the Country, and we stand but upon ticklish Terms in the City. Our Foundation-stone, the Opinion of our Majority, wherewith we had so long deluded the Kingdom, is now remov'd, which has made our whole *Building* totter. We were, indeed, like *Torquato Tasso's* Inchanted Fortrefs, that seem'd to be guarded with *Fiery Dragons, Lions, Giants*, and terrible *Monsters*; but when the *Rinaldos* came with true Courage, determined to attack us, and to sligh those vain *Phantoms*, the Charm was ended, the *Magical* and *Airy Structure* soon vanish'd out of sight, and has quite expos'd our Weakness, which so long had lain conceal'd.

Sir R. C. In Appearance, you are broken at present. But you are of the Serpent-kind, when one would imagine you were cut to pieces, the Parts join, as sound, and as firm as ever.

Sir T. D. There is a certain Glue in the Nature of us, call'd *Interest*, which knits the Joints after they have been sever'd by some accidental Blow. Nor are we out of hopes to recover, by some as yet unthought-on Indiscretions in others, the Ground we have lost by our own Follies. If you please, I'll leave Orders to be deny'd; and then pray



let us *Quid nunc* all this Morning over our Tea.

Sir R. C. *Quid nunc* ! What's that ?

Sir T. D. 'Tis the modish Word for talking with one another of Publick Matters.

Sir R. C. We have a large Field to range in ; the Changes in the Ministry, and the Dissolution of the Parliament, are copious Subjects for Inquisitive Men to descant on.

Sir T. D. Are not the People, in the Parts where you have been, astonished to see the Court venture upon such bold Measures ?

Sir R. C. Not at all. None are alarm'd at it, as I can find, but just those who have ever been devoted to your *Faction* ; and among that Number, many begin to be sensible of their past Errors, and to confess, That what has been done, was unavoidable.

Sir T. D. But could not these *Alterations* have been better adjourn'd 'till the War was ended ?

Sir R. C. Perhaps they might have been delay'd, if your Behaviour had been such as was in any degree compatible with the very Existence of Regal Government. But you went on so fast, that 'twas high time to intercept you in your Course. You were plainly erecting an Empire within an Empire, which is never to be suffered. The People of *England* had been accustom'd to see a Prince on the Throne, and under that Prince, Ministers, to whom the Executive Power was trusted. But we were *Strangers* to your new Political Frame, where the Sovereign, and those the

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Sovereign had appointed, and look'd upon as chief Ministers, were permitted to do nothing, and where the Rulers were to be ruled by others. We comprehended likewise what was meant by the Word P——t, but we could not fall into the Notion, that 'twas to be influenced by secret Springs in a certain Engine call'd the *Junto*; and yet all this has been commonly believ'd to be our Case these three Years last past. Have Individuals lately had any Weight and Authority, and has not All been rather sway'd by a Party? 'Tis true that Party has shelter'd it self under the Countenance of some great Names, with the Complement of being at their Devotion, but how often were they guided or advised by 'em? And were they not rather compell'd to follow the very Persons they were thought to lead?

Sir T. D. But had not they the Principal Offices?

Sir R. C. They had the Envy, Troubles, Toils and Dangers wherewith high Stations are attended, but you *Whigs* assumed all the real Power. And though you had enjoy'd the *Plunder* of Three Kingdoms 'twas impossible to satiate your Avarice, or content your Ambition. In all your Proceedings, was there not a visible Leven of Hatred to the Establishment in Church and State, which gave it a sour Taste, and made it impracticable for any Ministry to co-operate long with you, unless they would renounce all their former Principles? In all your Designs there was so plain a Tendency

to erect to your selves such an Authority, as no part of the Constitution should be able to Controul, that none could be great enough to bear you out. Whatever Wisdom could contrive, or Valour perform, you defeated, by grafting upon it somewhat relating to the Advancement of your own Interest, which made it lose part of its Grace and Relish with the People; nor did ever any Great Man mingle in your Councils, without losing his former Popularity. In short, no *Atlas* was strong enough to support so ponderous a Weight, as you have been to the Shoulders of a Ministry.

Sir *T. D.* You believe then we have drawn upon our selves these Changes, and this Dissolution.

Sir *R. C.* 'Tis evident enough; and if our Conference lasts any Time, I shall take an Opportunity farther to explain my self upon this Head. But why do I pretend to reason on these Matters before so deep a Man as Sir *Thomas Double*, from whom I ought rather to desire Information and Instruction? You know I have seldom been in Town these several Years. Part of my Time was employ'd in Travelling, or in the Army, with my young Cousin *Comover*; and of late I have led the Life of a meer Country Gentleman: Therefore, I should be glad to have from you the Chain of Things, knowing no Man is abler to give it than your self. You must tell me how you have passed your Time since 1701. When we parted, I hardly thought you could escape the many Dangers of the Law to  
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which you were liable, and yet I see you now making a mighty Figure, and reported to be exceeding Rich.

Sir T. D. Few are better acquainted than my self with all Transactions for twenty Years last past, to which I may modestly add, like *Aeneas*, *Quorum pars Magna fui*. I shall endeavour to content your Curiosity, and will presume to say, the History of my Life, or my Commentaries, contain in some Degree the History of the Times. However, you are not to expect any regular or continued Narrative, and you must take Things as they shall arise from what we talk.

Sir R. C. But let me beg you to do it in those open and frank Terms you have always made use of when we discourse together; and when you have concluded, in return of this Kindness, either now, if our Leisure admits of it, or at some other Season, I shall give you an Account, for what Reasons I left the Town, and upon what Convictions I soon after quitted your Party; how I came to obtain my Grandfather's Forgiveness, and recover his Favour, which I had lost by repeated Faults, and by being one of your Disciples; and from what Motives, upon the Death of his only Heir-male, he was induced to leave me his whole Estate. I shall likewise give you a short History of his Life, who was a true Image of Old *English* Honour, the perfect Pattern of consummate Virtue, and, in a few Words, just the Reverse of what you are.

Sir





**Sir T. D.** I heard you had abandon'd our Side, and that you were your Grandfather's Heir; but as to other Particulars, I am a Stranger. You are now Master of a brave Fortune, but I am told you are so low-spirited as to be contented with it. Return to us, and we will teach you better Things.

**Sir R. C.** The old Gentleman has enjoin'd me, my eldest Son, and Grandson, when I have one, under severe Penalties, to undertake no publick Trust whatsoever, unless it be that of a Justice of Peace, Deputy-Lieutenant, or, according to our Duty, to serve the Crown in Parliament.

**Sir T. D.** 'Tis one of the oddest Clauses that was ever contain'd in any Will.

**Sir R. C.** But 'tis what my self, and I hope my Posterity, shall religiously observe. I believe he laid this Injunction, in Prospect of that general Corruption wherein he saw *Great Britain*, of late Years, so deeply plung'd: For knowing we should probably be always of the House of Commons, he resolv'd, as far as in him lay, that we should enter, and continue there, unincumber'd with Dependence. Besides, he us'd to say, That no Man in the highest Station, made a better Figure in the Kingdom, than a Country Gentleman of Four Thousand Pound a Year, who would confine his Thoughts and Cares to the Management of his own Estate.

**Sir T. D.** I think your Seat of *Sutton-Com-over* gives you the intire Interest in the Neighbouring Burrough, where you can be chosen your self, and Name another. I take it



it for granted, you will stand for One; and if you will let the other be of my Recommendation, I shall make it manifest, it will turn richly to your Account. Besides, you will thereby engage to you all the Friendship of our Party, which, I hope, is still not so contemptible, as some of the *Tories* are pleas'd to imagine. I would fain have you do your self Good, and consult your own Interest. It has been always our Maxim, *That Men are Born for Themselves, and not for Others.*

Sir R. C. Sure one so considerable in the Party as you are, cannot want a Burrough. But why do I talk of this, when all the News of our Country last Year ran, that Sir *Thomas Double* was to be made a Lord?

Sir T. D. Did that Report reach so far as *Sutton-Comber*?

Sir R. C. Yes, in troth; but let me be so Frank as to say, 'twas only thought a Jest.

Sir T. D. There was more in it than I perceive you and your Neighbours knew. Nothing shall be conceal'd from my Friend. I did aim at this Honour. And when you hear all, perhaps you will allow my Pretensions were not ill grounded.

Sir R. C. I have rarely found the *Peerage* prostituted so low as to one of your Extraction.

Sir T. D. Away with your foolish old Notions. I warrant, you think Birth and Merit, the only true Steps to Greatness. You may as well talk of wearing Ruffs and Farthingals. My Hopes were erected upon a better

better Foundation; I have Merits of a different Kind, and, in this Age, more Valuable. I am now worth Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pound; or to speak in the more fashionable Dialect, I have two Plumbs and a half, the Estate of two good Earls; of which Sum, in my own, and other Names, I have Forty Thousand Pound in *Bank Stock*, and as much in the *East-India Company*; I am generally a Director in Both; and being known to be in the highest Secrets above, I govern their general Courts, and Courts of Committees, with a Nod or a Wink, just as I please.

Sir R. C. This may indeed give you a great Interest in the City,

Sir T. D. And can you be so little conversant in the Business of the World, as not to know what an Influence the City, of late Years, pretended to have over all Affairs at Court, and might have much more, would others be half so Industrious as I am. If Nine or Ten of us, would enter into such a firm Union, as ought always to be preserv'd among those who design to make a Prey of the Publick; and if One or Two would not, as the common Practice is, break from the rest, in hopes of making a separate Gain, or to promote some separate Interest; I say, Nine or Ten, so confederated, and each bringing in a considerable Sum, may have the Companies at their Beck, and do what they pleas'd elsewhere; which would produce such a Dependence on us in the whole Kingdom, and create such a general Strength, as could  
not

not easily be shaken. I am, at present, forming a League of this Nature, and it shall be Offensive and Defensive, into which, if you relish it, you may enter; and thereby secure to your self, Money and Power, the only Two Things in this World, worth regarding.

Sir R. C. Of this at another Season.

Sir T. D. I founded my Pretensions to a Title, on a two-fold Basis, upon what I had done for the Service of the Party, and upon the Secrets with which I had been trusted by 'em. I must acknowledge, there were infinite Numbers of *Modern Whigs* as Zealous in Iniquity as my self, and as ready, and as willing to do all I had done, but let 'em produce one who had my Dexterity; so that I am confident they neither would, nor durst have been Ungrateful to such shining Merit.

Sir R. C. You seem a little warm'd.

Sir T. D. My Reputation and Theirs are concern'd, that any One should imagine my Twenty Years laborious and faithful Services could have been forgotten. You your self are not unacquainted with what I did for 'em in former Times, and with the Figure I then made, and how Busie and Active I was to bring Male-Administration to be Profitable to those who were willing to promote it, and to make all Degrees of the People (except the Landed Men, which was indeed beyond my Skill) find their Accounts in it. You may remember, 'twas I gave the first Hint of running the Kingdom in Debt,



as much, and as fast, as possibly we could, shewing what Advantages it would produce to private Men. As to the Clipping-Trade, whereby many of our Friends got immense Sums; 'twas carried on by my own Management, and by the Country-Receiver I had recommended. The distribution of the Bribes and Pensions was chiefly committed to my Care: I was the principal Inventer of all Lies, either relating to the Publick, or to particular Persons; and I was the first Deviser of all those fatal Projects to raise Money, which will make our Grand-children fetch many a bitter Sigh; but we never consider'd that. I Originally propogated the Notion (when Supplies were demanded) not previously to take into Consideration what Funds were left uningag'd, and in what Capacity *England* was to raise so many Millions, but rather to resolve to Vote the respective Sums first, and afterwards to depend on *L——ds* and Providence how to raise 'em.

Sir R. C. I am privy to most of your former Endeavours; but from whence do your new Deserts arise?

Sir T. D. I may justly value my self upon the Eight Thousand Pound it cost me to be elected, last Parliament, Knight of the Shire, in a County, where none, but of the First Quality, durst ever presume to offer themselves before. You must grant, 'twas no small Merit to break the Ice of Corrupting Counties by the City-Wealth, which I hope hereafter will find no Resistance. And, under the Rose, I may tell you, most of the vast Sums that have been expend-



expended, of late Years, to carry on Elections, have gone through my Hands.

Sir R. C. Your Industry has been very Universal.

Sir T. D. The whole Nation can bear Witness, how well I have behaved my self in, and out of the House, where I never fail'd to Rattle nobly, with my old Topicks, of *France* and *Popery*: Words I always made use of, when I was to bear down right Sense, and the Publick Good; which Words we never intend to lay aside, as long as there remains a Shilling in the Island. Was there any Flattery never so gross and servile, into which I have not enter'd with the most Forward? Did I ever decline any Measure, how destructive soever to the Kingdom, if our Party found their Interest in it? And have not I obstructed from the Beginning, 'till Now, all sorts of Inquiries into the Estimates of the Army, Fleet, Transports and Ordnance? And, who was more Instrumental than my self, in slubbering over the whole Matter of *Spain* and *Portugal*?

Sir R. C. Your Performances on that Head were famous.

Sir T. D. Besides, I may tell you, 'twas I form'd the Scheme (however it came to miscarry) of involving by Subornation and Perjury, some of the best Patriots of *Great Britain*, in *Gregg's* Business; whereby we gain'd, at least, this Advantage, to have, for two or three Months, the Nick-Name of *Gregg's Friends*, for all those we did not like, or of whose Abilities we stood in awe: And Nick-Names

Names have often help'd us at a Dead Lift, to Brand such as happen'd to differ from us in Opinion, tho' with never so much Reason.

Sir R. C. And I think you chang'd 'em almost every Year, as you saw Occasion.

Sir T. D. But, I fear, they will avail us little, now the Eyes of the People begin to be open'd. 'Twas I first encourag'd Mr. H——ks, and furnish'd him with the Means to oppose Sir S——n H——t at Ab——n. Among many Candidates for that Preferment, (as we term'd it between one another) I was chosen out to have made the Motion for removing, you may guess whom. But in this Design, we were defeated by the Care and Wisdom of One, who, tho' then out of Court, had a watchful Eye over what concern'd the Qu——s Honour, so much involved in that Question: But judging somewhat would be necessary to repair that Blunder in Politicks, as well as good Manners, and to revive the drooping Spirits of our Party, 'twas Resolv'd, at a Meeting, to bring in an Im——t against Dr. S——l.

Sir R. C. And were you weak enough to give into that Business?

Sir T. D. No indeed: I, and two or three other Long-headed Fellows, oppos'd it Might and Main, foreseeing plainly what Effects it would produce: And had my Advice been taken, it would have prov'd, and I should have plac'd it, in the foremost Rank of all the Services I have perform'd for the *Modern Whigs*. But I was over-rul'd by Persons more weighty

weighty than my self. I would fain have persuaded J——n D——n, the dearest partaker of my Councils, not to engage in it; but he it seems, was determin'd to go the very farthest Lengths, and had some Views he conceal'd from me; but, mistake me not, in my Arguments of Diswasion, I did not urge, that it would look Indecent in him to make such a Motion, who was the Son, and great Nephew of an A——p, that Part of it I lik'd exceedingly. My Reasons against it were, That I saw it would interrupt us in our other Courses; but I was knock'd down with One, indeed, unanswerable Argument, which my Friends made use of to bring me Over: And it was, That this Imp——t at the beginning of a Sessions, would at least take up Time, and serve to divert Mens Minds for the present, from some shrewd Inquiries into the management of Affairs, which we suspected the Adversary was going to make, and truly it had this good Effect; insomuch, that I could heartily wish we had just such another Bone to throw in for next P——t, where, I believe, it would do us mighty Service. But to go on, when I found the Matter was resolv'd, I thought 'twas my Duty to come into it with my whole Weight. And no Man in the Kingdom shew'd more Vigour than my self, in the management of that Affair; which I must own, if it had succeeded, according to the Ideas some of us had form'd, would have establish'd us for ever. Without Doors, in vehement Figures, I represented how dangerous the Doctrins of *Passive-Obedience* and *Non-Resistance* were, to



a Well-establish'd Government : How unsafe it was for Princes to have their Subjects think their Consciences under such a Divine Tie, as would hold them faster than any Humane Law ; and how much a Kingdom would be enrich'd and improv'd by frequent Rebellions, if the Laws could be brought to allow of 'em. In another Place, I exclaim'd upon the dreadful Dangers of a formidable Rebellion, which, at the height of it, could not be dispers'd and quell'd by less than two Files of Musqueteers. I threaten'd all I spoke to, with a potent Army to be rais'd of desperate *Jacobites* and *Non-jurors*, who, if they exerted their whole Strength, could, at least, raise a Troop of Horse, and a Regiment of Foot. I shew'd what just and reasonable Fears might arise from a thin Rabble, arm'd with Broomsticks, and all the while praying for, and extolling the Q—n. In short, I push'd Things as far as ever they would go, in hopes to merit Favour, by driving on Points wherein I saw some of us engag'd with such impetuous Fury, believing these active Endeavours would forward my approaching Peerage ; tho', as you shall hear a-non, I saw it had no kind Aspect from the Stars.

Sir R. C. Pray, while I think on't, what Part of *England* was to be Honour'd with giving you a Title ?

Sir T. D. The Lord who was my principal Friend, had confin'd me to *Kent* ; and Swore he would oppose me to the utmost, if he might not choose the Place of my Baronage ; so I left it to him, and he would have  
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my Style run thus, *Thomas, Baron Long-tail, of Long-tail, in the County of Kent.*

Sir R. C. I suppose your Chief Baron, is he under whose Arm I have seen you so often walk in the *Court of Requests*. Your Head was so turn'd with the Thoughts of this Honour, that you could not see you were Bamboozeld: Don't you know that noble Person is the greatest Bitester in the Kingdom?

Sir T. D. They durst not have us'd me so; I knew too many of their Secrets: I have not enumerated the hundredth Part of my Services; for these last Seven Years, I have given Hints for most of the Libels that have been written, and compos'd as many of 'em my self, as my infinite other Business will admit of. I wrote *Monsieur Pet—m's Letter to Monsieur B—ys*; the *French King's Thanks to the Tories*, and the *Four Letters to a Friend in North-Britain*: I Penn'd the Paper call'd, *The New Scheme*, which is indeed One of the most Impudent of all my Performances: In all which Pamphlets, I have cast the most odious and insolent Reflections I could possibly devise upon Her M——ys Proceedings; and hope those four Libels have prepar'd the People, by way of anticipation, to lay upon the new Ministry, the interruption of the Peace, and the decay of Credit; which, to speak plain Truth, have been the result of former Errors, and no more than was to be expected from our Conduct, since we have had the Power and Influence in most Affairs.

Sir R. C. I have read over these Pamphlets with Care; and all that I can collect from

'em is, That you are reduc'd to defend your selves by Sophistry and flat Lies: For as to any solid Arguments they contain, I can find no more than what my Wife's waiting Woman is able to Answer at her Toilet; nor are they thought to have help'd your Cause.

Sir T. D. You are mistaken, they deceive a great many; at least they serve to confirm our own Fools and Knaves, and furnish 'em with Arguments to keep up the Ball of Contention; but you must needs acknowledge, the *Observer* and the *Review* have done the *Whigs* considerable Service. I furnish Weekly these two brave Incendiaries, with Heads and Materials to work upon, whereby they are become the proper Pulses of our Party. When Things went well with us at Court, I directed 'em to give Her M—y the Praises She has so highly deserv'd from all her Subjects; but if we did not approve of what was doing, I left my two Authors to follow their own natural Bent, which was, *To speak Evil of the Rulers of the People*. I gave 'em the Cues when they were to cry up the Ministers, and when they were to load 'em with foul and unjust Reproaches, as it suited with our Designs and Measures: I order'd 'em to proceed in the same Manner with the H—se of C——ns: If what they did pleas'd us, they were to be call'd, *The Guardians of Liberty*: But as often as a Stand was made to the wild Projects of our Heads and Leaders, I bid 'em Rail and Exclaim, and talk of *Opening the Magazine of Original Power*.

Sir R. C. If you will have my Opinion, Sir Thomas, those inflaming Libels have rather

ther beat down, than promoted the Interest of your Party ; at least, 'tis evidently so in my Neighbourhood. The Eyes of the People have been thereby open'd : Their advancing direct *Fanaticism* above the establish'd Religion ; the treasonable Notions they have cultivated ; their repeated Affronts to the Regal Authority ; their false and odious Expressions of our Lord High Admiral, a Prince whose Memory will be ever Dear to all good Men ; the Personal Reflections they have made upon so many known Patriots of the first Rank ; their constant Flirts at the Episcopal Order ; their continual Attempts to render the whole Clergy contemptible ; the settled Aversion they shew to the Royal Line, and their ridiculing the execrable Murther of King *Charles I.* have made the Nobility, Gentry, and substantial Free-holders, with the good Citizens, begin to look about 'em, and to entertain well-grounded Apprehensions, that some wicked Designs were a-foot to alter the Constitution in Church and State ; which just Fears have brought 'em now to embrace the Government more warmly, and to seek shelter under the Wings of their Lawful Monarch, our most gracious Queen ; and probably 'tis this Consideration that has render'd the Changes in the Ministry, and a Dissolution, unavoidable.

Sir T. D. You think then my *Observers* and *Reviews* have done us more Hurt than Good. However, they are all we have now to lean on ; they are our only Advocates ; they are to be cherished and recommended as the Oracles to be consulted upon all Emer-



gences. And if these Papers were not believed to help our Cause, can you imagine they would have been suffer'd to *poison* the *Kingdom* with Impunity for several Years, when 'tis impossible the Laws should be so impotent as not to be able to suppress 'em?

Sir R. C. I think, like several other venomous Creatures, they carry their Antidote with 'em; so that I should advise you to blot this Article out of the Catalogue of your high Merits.

Sir T. D. If I did, a sufficient Number would still remain. But what I value my self most upon is, that my Breast is the Archive and Repository of the most important Secrets of the Party. To take Matters up from the beginning of this Reign. Do you remember a certain Message that was sent, which was so much talk'd on?

Sir R. C. Very well, with this Circumstance; that nothing made a stronger Impression upon my Grandfather, who was won't to extol to the Skies, what my Lord D———*et* had Orders to say from the Q———*n*. The old Gentleman look'd upon it as the highest Instance he had ever met, of Royal Goodness, a forgiving Temper, and true Greatness of Mind.

Sir T. D. Few things 'scap'd me, I knew who advis'd that Message, and that the Adviser of it could not be ignorant how the P———*ess* of D———*k* had been compell'd to leave the *Cockpit*, because Her Noble Firmness refus'd to give up and banish from Her Presence a Lady, who had long serv'd Her. How the Lords and Ladies were frown'd upon who presum'd to enter Her Solitary Palace,  
and

and how Her usual Guards were taken from Her.

Sir R. C. Indeed you *Whigs* us'd Her with wonderful Respect and Duty.

Sir T. D. You shall find we began to lay our Corner-stones betimes. All was luckily hush'd up, and except my self, and a very few more, no Body could tell for what Reason. But I knew our Party had enter'd into most solemn Engagements to be Penitent, Humble, Silent, and no ways to give any Disturbance to the future Management of Affairs.

Sir R. C. And how did you keep your Promise?

Sir T. D. You shall hear; as soon as we were wash'd White in this Particular, and had thus got clear of the most popular Charge upon our former Conduct, we began to recover Breath, and to give our selves quite other Airs. And from thinking Impunity much more than we could in reason hope for, we grew in a short Time to aspire to Power: However, at my Suggestion, 'twas privately resolv'd among us, as yet, to pretend to nothing but to find Fault with all Things that were done by others; nor was it long before we came, from being Criminals, to be the first Accusers.

Sir R. C. 'Twas like the wonted Modesty of your Side.

Sir T. D. 'Twas by my Advice that we associated to us all of the Church-Party whom Discontent, Disappointments, and perhaps Humour, had made Angry with the Court; by which we had form'd a pretty sort of Strength. And when we had thus the Ap-

pearance of some Troops, though our Ranks were very thin, I fet my Emiffaries to perfuade the Church-Party to bring in the Occafional Bill, and to infinuate to our Modern *Whigs*, not to give it much Oppofition; but rather to commit the Event of it to another Place. And this was the firft Shock I gave the *Tories*. Not long after I employ'd my Emiffaries again to revive this Matter of the *Occafional Bill*, who had my Orders to whisper to the *Tories*, that the Church was not fafe without this Additional Security; and to the *Whigs*, that it would overthrow the Fundamentals of the *Toleration-Act*; fo by inducing both fides to refolve not to recede in the leaft Point, I knew I fhould fet 'em together by the Ears, and that fo many juft Provocations as we ftudiously gave the Church-Party, might produce a Tack.

Sir R. C. Your Malice fucceeded.

Sir T. D. When I had got a Tack, I thought my Work done, forefeeing it would break the *Tories* among one another, as you faw it did. My next Bufinefs was to make the Modern *Whigs* every where cry up *Moderation*. 'Twas Specious, Popular, look'd Fair, Wife and Honest, and would be a Measure willingly embrac'd by All who truly love their Country, which was fufficiently embroil'd by *Faction*. And you can hardly imagine how univerfally this Doctrin did obtain, and help to draw in fome of the moft piercing Underftandings. Very few were trufted with the *Anecdote*, or *Secret History* of that Affair; but I, from the beginning, knew it was



was only meant as a Veil to cover the blackest of our Designs.

Sir R. C. Scarce any thing will be less forgiven your Party, than the Arts you us'd to induce so many, by Speaking and Writing, to recommend *Moderation* to the *People*, when nothing of it was intended by those in Power. And perhaps you will find, to your Costs, some Effects of this Resentment; for Men had rather be highly injur'd than but a little over-reach'd.

Sir T. D. Why did they trust us? Had we not deceiv'd them often enough before? But to go on; the Tack, our Pretences to *Moderation*, which we dissembled with excellent Cunning, had brought over many considerable Persons, and quite broke the *Tories* among themselves; and from that Time the Game began to play it self into our Hands. However, as yet we made no great Progress; for 'till the *Farce* of *Moderation* was over, we resolv'd not to begin the *Interlude*. But it was not long before we had got such a Head, that we might safely pull off the Mask; and by Degrees, weeding the Court, we got into the full *Administration* of *Affairs*, leaving to the Great Men, with much Regret, here and there the *Protection* of a Personal Friend, of whom likewise we determin'd they should divest themselves, as soon as we judg'd it seasonable. But about *Feb.* 1708. the Field was left open to us, we influenced every Thing, and our Friends had the Nomination to all Preferments, Ecclesiastical and Civil; and 'twas about that Time, that the Great Men came to own and acknowledge, That 'twas  
more

more consistent with the Fame they had in Foreign Parts, wiser and safer for them to be under the *Whigs*, and govern'd by us, than to continue in full Power, and govern the Church-Party. But how this was wrought, is the very profoundest Secret I am Master of.

Sir R. C. To this Day it remains a Mystery to Men much more discerning than You and I.

Sir T. D. Besides I have a Scale (which is an Artificial Secret) whereby I measure what Lengths every Man will go, what desperate Councils he will engage in, and what bold Motions he is willing first to open; by which Scale, I proportion Rewards to Merit; but I keep it very private, and as charily, as the *Chamberlain's* do their Instrument for bringing Women to Bed.

Sir R. C. Were you appris'd of none of the Affairs of *Scotland*?

Sir T. D. Sure you jest to ask that Question. I was privy to all the Total *Alteration* in Measures, and in the Ministry, that generally happen'd there once a Year. I know upon what Reason the Act of *Security* was promoted there, and here at Home, which erected *Scotland* into a Commonwealth, and gave the Subjects a Legal Authority to Rebel as often as they took a Fancy to it; all which was done without any *Settlement* of the *Succession* upon the House of *Hannover*. So far I will let you into the Secret, that this Act had the *Royal Assent*, August 1704. when we *Whigs* began to creep into Court, where we whisper'd to such who were so fatally blind-ed as to Trust, and believe in us, that no-  
thing

thing but such an Act could quiet the Minds of the People there, tho' we our selves were all the while satisfied of the contrary; but we push'd it on, plainly foreseeing what Advantages our Party would afterwards derive from thence.

Sir R. C. Somebody, I remember, wrote me Word, that you went to *Scotland* in *September*, 1706. I take it for granted 'twas about some Matter that related to the Union. Were you let into that Secret.

Sir T. D. As to the Union it self, and the Course it had in the Parliaments of both Kingdoms, I must own I know little; for I never give my self the trouble to inquire into Matters that carry an Honest Face, since nothing is to be got there. However, I had Orders to undertake that Expedition; my Craft, and the Activity of my Spirit, being known to many: And that I might succeed the better, I constituted *Daniel De Foe*, Esq; my Chief Secretary; of whose Capacity in Affairs of the like nature, I had long Experience, and a most Reverend Opinion. My Business was to look after the Distribution of the E——t. And here, the Scale I told you of, to measure *Merit* by, stood me in great stead; for I had hourly use of it, while that Matter depended, which was above three Months; and there are few things I value my self more upon, than my Conduct there.

Sir R. C. My Friends sent me word, another Gentleman had the Secret of that Business.

Sir T. D. As much as the Duke of *Courland*. I alone had it: And with my Scale of *Merit* I measur'd, who were least in earnest in that  
Mat-



Matter, and least serious in their Intentions to have it, in its future Consequences, advantageous to both Kingdoms: Who were most willing to give up any of their ancient Rights: Who had been most subservient to the Designs of our Party here at Home: And lastly, Who were most like to be blindly dependent on us in time to come: When I had done this, I proportion'd my Rewards accordingly; giving the largest Share to those, whose Endeavours in the Union had been least Meritorious; and leaving the rest to scramble for the small remainder; taking particular care *W——m P——son* should have nothing; tho' I was satisfy'd, no private Person was more instrumental than he, in bringing the Union to be practicable: But I had good reason for so doing; he was thought to be an honest Man, and such I knew were not to be encourag'd.

Sir R. C. And so I perceive part of the E——t was dispos'd of.

Sir T. D. While I think on't, pray how did the Church-Party, in your Neighbourhood, relish the Act of *General Pardon*?

Sir R. C. They acquiesc'd in this, as they do in all other things, which they believe to be the Queen's real Pleasure. Besides, they know 'tis Her Prerogative to send down Acts of Grace, and Her Majesty's peculiar Temper to be ready to forgive Offenders; but they could not help wishing it had been post-pon'd to another Season. They urg'd, Our Side has been accus'd these Twenty Years by in-  
imous Libels (which have rather met with Rewards, than due Punishment) to have been  
all

all along Favourers of Popery, secret Well-wishers to the *Pretender*, and Friends of *France*. But being conscious of no such Crimes, it imported us, That no Bar shou'd have been interpos'd, which might have hinder'd the opening, and narrowly searching into this great Magazine of Iniquities, where so many dark things lie conceal'd. If the Publick is not cut off from such a Scrutiny, 'twould then appear, which side have most promoted the *French* Interest; Who have conniv'd at the letting in such Swarms of Jesuits, and other Priests, that have perverted more of the Vulgar sort in twenty Years, than had been reconcil'd to *Rome* in double that time before. The Reasons would then be visible, why, in most Elections, especially for these last Ten Years, the *Roman Catholicks* have brought their Tenants, and such as they could influence, to Vote for the *Modern Whigs*. Lastly, Such a Search would show, who have most enrich'd themselves by the Public Spoil; and who have loaded with such immense Charges and Debts those National Funds, that, for the future, should enable us to carry on the War against *France*, and resist any Attempt from the *Pretender*.

Sir T. D. I do not like this opening of the great Magazine of Iniquities.

Sir R. C. These were the Sentiments of my Neighbourhood concerning that A&C. Nay they went further, and made a bold Challenge to the *Modern Whigs*: " Do you give your  
 " Members Instructions (as your Custom has  
 " lately been) to give their Votes for Ab-  
 " rogating that Act, and we will prevail  
 " upon

“ upon ours to do the same. Let us look  
 “ back as many Years as you please, and  
 “ then, in the Name of God, let it be seen  
 “ at whose Doors the Faults really lie”: By  
 which Appeal to Mankind, it will become  
 apparent, which Side deserves Punishment,  
 and which merits Recompence.

Sir T. D. 'Twere Folly to disown our  
 standing in terrible need of that Act; but  
 how it came to be obtain'd must remain in  
*Petto*, as well as many other Secrets of the  
 same Importance. I could tell you, if it  
 were seasonable, what was intended without-  
 doors to have follow'd, if Dr. S——'s Trial  
 had succeeded according to our Wishes; that  
 is, if the *Church of England* Doctrines had  
 been Condemn'd, as well as the Indiscreti-  
 ons of the Man were Censur'd, brave things  
 would have been brought upon the Anvil:  
 But I am oblig'd to silence. Perhaps there  
 are not above Five in the whole Kingdom,  
 besides my self, and the Author of *The Di-  
 vine Rights of the British Nation Vindicated*, can  
 tell the meaning of these Words produc'd at  
 the Trial: And if he will but stay till the  
**End of this present Session of Parlia-  
 ment, he'll find several new Powers an-  
 nexed to the Regal Office, and perhaps  
 some made void and repealed for the Pub-  
 lick Good.**

Sir R. C. Have you done with all your Se-  
 crets yet?

Sir T. D. I have already told you of as  
 many as I think fit to impart at present.

Sir R. C. Then let me tell you of one where-  
 with I find you are not acquainted, and which  
 was



was communicated to my Grandfather about Four Years ago, by a Great Man at Court, with whom he corresponded, and I had the perusal of the Letters.

Sir T. D. Pray let's hear this.

Sir R. C. You must know, that about 12 Years ago, there was a tall lean old Gentleman, with an Epileptical Face, his Name was *Archimagus*, who liv'd constantly in Town, but despis'd all Conversation, and undervalu'd the World. He was a moral, virtuous Man. He had spent Forty Years in his Closet, and was extremely well vers'd in the *Greek* and *Roman* Historians. He was perfect in all the particular Forms and Political Institutions of every Commonwealth in *Greece*; and knew all the Affairs of *Rome* as well as if he had us'd to sup every Night with *Lucullus*, *Cicero*, *Crassus* and *Cesar*, in the *Apollo*.

Sir T. D. Of which Four I would have made Asses in *Exchange-Alley*.

Sir R. C. He could say by Heart the *Cra-covian* Catechism. He had read all the *Polonian* Fathers. He was Master of all the *Antitrinitarian* Books, and of all that treated of *Deism* or *Atheism*, or who were Advocates for a pure *Democracy*. One whole side of his Study contain'd nothing but Volumes, which had every one of them been burnt by the Hand of the Common Hangman, or whose Authors had been hang'd or stigmatiz'd. Over his Study Doors he had the Pictures of *Hobbs*, *Harrington* and *Algernon Sidney*, whom he call'd his *Apostles*. He had collected from every Part of *Europe*, all the Li-  
bels

bels against each respective Government, either in Church or State; and he had reduced his whole Reading to a plain, easie and well-digested Common-Place.

Sir T. D. He must fure have been very laborious.

Sir R. C. But the Wonder is, the honest Man thought he was doing good to Human Kind; whereas he was all this while sowing the Seeds of much Distraction in these Kingdoms.

Sir T. D. As how?

Sir R. C. Towards the latter end of his Life, that Posterity might be the better for his Labours, he took the Collections he had been making so many Years, and put 'em into an Alimbeck, mingling and luting 'em very well, and from thence he distill'd a Liquor which he believ'd would prove a higher and nobler Cordial than the *Magisterium*. But he had accidentally shuffled in some baneful Drug which spoil'd the whole.

Sir T. D. I have heard of this Liquor, they used to drink it in their Tea, at a certain Place in *Somerset-House*.

Sir R. C. 'Tis the same. This Extract is highly Grateful to the Smell, and of a very pleasant Taste, especially to Youthful Palates; and they term it among themselves, the *Spirit* or *Quintessence* of Wisdom: Of this he gave a large Viol to a young Man of Quality, and this Gentleman every Morning took 3 or 4 drops of it Fasting, not perceiving that all this while he swallowed Poison.

Sir T. D. Poison!

Sir R. C. Rank Poison; which throws the Patient at last into direct Madness, but operates slowly; for this Person was not discover'd to be hurt by it in six or seven Years; but then it began to break out. The first Symptom of this Distemper is, That they who are thus Poison'd talk of nothing but a *Common-wealth, Agrarian Laws, Power and Majesty of the People, Legality of Resistance, Original Contract, Revolution-Principles*, and in such confus'd Terms, that no body can comprehend what they mean. And as they who are bitten by a Mad Dog, at the height of the Disease cannot bear the sight of Water; so these, when the Venom has seiz'd their Mass of Blood, rave downright, and foam at Mouth if you mention to 'em *Regal Authority, or Church Government*. The Distemper becomes almost incurable, when they begin no more to know their Master or Mistress, to loath their Meat, and to fall a barking continually in Publick Assemblies. As to the Person I mean, the Crisis of his Malady was about 1705.

Sir T. D. Was it Catching?

Sir R. C. Yes; and communicated like the other Madness, by Biting. This Man of Quality bit a great Lady; this Lady bit several others of Quality; and these bit several of the R ———d Pr——tes; and these bit many of the Inferior Clergy; so that no Place was without some of the Mad Folks. But the Malady was most outrageous about St. James's: And 'twas the highest Blessing that could possibly befall the Nation, that



One we know, was not bitten amongst the rest ; for great Endeavours were us'd to touch Her ; but the Hand of Providence, the general Prayers of the People, Her own Piety and Vertue guarded Her Sacred Person. Besides, as a Preservative against Infection, She read every day some of my Lord *Clarendon's History of the last Rebellion* ; where She saw how dangerous it is for Princes to let a Faction grow Powerful ; since in the Parliament of 1640, there were not above three Members at first, who really design'd a Civil War ; yet so many in one Sessions had join'd themselves to these Three, that, in eight Months, they were strong enough to subvert the Constitution, both in Church and State. She might, in this Book, discern the Spirit and Nature of the *Party* ; She might see how greedy they were of Power, and with what Insolence they behav'd themselves when they were in Possession of it. That from the beginning, they had never any Thoughts of Peace : That they were not so much touch'd with *Grievances*, as with the *Hatred of Monarchy it self* : That they were subtle in their Malice, and implacable in their Rage ; shedding so much Noble Blood, when the Sword of War was in a manner sheath'd : That when they had the full Victory, by Sequestrations, Decimations, and compounding for Delinquency, they had impoverish'd the Nobility and Gentry more than the Soldier had done by Plunder. That tho' *Liberty of Conscience* was a main Cause for which they pretended to have begun the War, the prevail-

vailing side suffer'd the Exercise of no *Enthusiasm* but their own: And that their Original Design, was, *To overthrow Monarchy and destroy the Church.*

Sir T. D. We should never have let that Book come out; it has done us a great deal of hurt, and open'd Peoples Eyes too much.

Sir R. C. You had not then quite so much Power as you have had since. To resume my Discourse: She could not but observe, what a near Resemblance there was between the *Old Rumper*, and the *Modern Whig* (for a Child will be like his true Father) and how much they agreed in their *Insolence to the Throne*, *Notions in Religion*, *Principles as to Government*, and *desire of their Neighbours Goods*; only with this difference, That the *Rumper* committed his Spoils upon the Enemy, but the *Modern Whig* robs Friend and Foe, extending his Rapine over the whole Kingdom.

Sir T. D. Where a Man's own Interest is concern'd, I do not see why he should make any distinction.

Sir R. C. The perusal of these Transactions, from 1640, and the comparison of 'em with what began to be in Agitation not long since, were Antidotes to preserve Her against the general Contagion; especially, when she consider'd, what melancholy Hours King Charles the First past in the Isle of *Wight*: And when perhaps She reflected, That having Guards set upon Him, is not the only Mark of a Prince's being reduc'd to Imprison-

sonment: But that He may be reckon'd a Captive, when his Cabinet and Bed-Chamber are fill'd with Spies; when he is environ'd only with one Set of Men; when all others are excluded; when the Power is grasp'd by a few Hands; when he is permitted to do no Act of Grace and Favour upon his own Motion; when Employments are not bestow'd as the Recompence of faithful Service to the Sovereign, but given to create Dependents upon those who have his Ear; when a *Potent Faction* is carrying on a *separate Interest*; when the Throne is so besieg'd, that no Truth, no sound Counsel, can approach it: And when all Protection, Countenance and Rewards must come thro' one Channel.

Sir T. D. But a *Party* (chiefly ours, which is not over-stock'd with Merit) cannot grow Rich and Powerful, nor aspire to great things, unless it has such a Prince.

Sir R. C. He is, indeed, best to nurse up a *Faction*, 'till 'tis strong enough to devour Him; but the generality of the Subjects remain miserable, 'till He resumes the Exercise of the Regal Authority into His own Hands; which is easie enough to do, tho' it has been long usurp'd by others: For the People naturally respect the Throne; their Minds are not tainted with the wild and impracticable Notions of a *Common-wealth*: They love to go on in the Track of their Fore-Fathers: They compassionate a Prince whom they think in Danger to be oppress'd by the Men of Power about Him, and are wil-



willing to join themselves to those whom they find desirous to support the Crown. Nor has hardly any King sunk under the Weight of a Party, but the Fault lay at his own Doors; either he resorted too late to the proper Remedies, or He wanted such a firmness of Mind, as was not to be shaken by the appearances of safer Counsels; or he was easie in listning to the Suggestions of others, tho' His own Judgment was sounder than that of such as pretended to advise Him.

Sir T. D. I must own, there is little more needful to keep a Sceptre, than for the Prince to have it often in His Hands.

Sir R. C. When a King is industriously kept from conversing with His People, their Eyes, in time, become diverted from Him to other Objects, always before 'em; which Objects draw to themselves those Applications that should only be made to Him. But this engrossing the Prince among a few produces yet worse Mischiefs. He grows a Stranger to his Affairs. He knows not how His Government is lik'd, so that he can mend no Error: Nor how His Subjects stand affected to Him, whereby He loses the opportunity of doing what is Popular, if there be occasion to conciliate Affections; till at last, Ruin comes upon Him before He is sensible of his own Condition. And thus ballancing past Transactions with the present, 'tis probable She thought it high Time to look about Her.

Sir T. D. But how could any Truth be convey'd to Her, when we had so <sup>much</sup> stop'd up all the Channels?

Sir R. C. There was your Mistake, you had not. While the *Royal Partner* of Her Cares was living, He had Opportunities to warn Her of impending Dangers; He had long observed the Craft, Pride and Insolence of your Friends: But nothing more open'd his Eyes, or shin'd with a more glaring Light, than their repeated Attempts to make him give up his High Office, without which they did not think their Power compleat; but they could never induce Him to it. With what Indecency their Motions toward this were made, and how unjust and personal their Reflections were, I leave any impartial Mind to judge, who considers those Transactions. And this they presum'd to do against the declar'd Minds, and in direct Opposition to the Great Men, in whom She thought Her Chief Authority was vested. It was impossible for Her not to perceive Her Honour wounded thro' His Sides; or for Him not to suspect some ill Designs were forging, when He saw they grasp'd at having all Power whatsoever lodg'd in Hands of their own appointment. And this probably brought Him to communicate to Her the Apprehensions He conceiv'd on Her Account: For His Noble Heart was not capable of any other Fear. His Advices and Representations were to be relied on, as coming from a sound Judgment; they were Faithful, Affectionate, unmix'd with Interest, for He could have none but what must center in Her Welfare and Glory. Besides, till about 1708, She had several Persons who could not fail of Representing to Her the

the true State of Her Affairs; but when She and the Nation had lost the *PRINCE*, and when so many had quitted at once in appearance, as you say, the Channels were stopp'd. However, *St. James's* was not quite so Garbled, but there remain'd here and there One to convey to Her important Truths. . . My Grandfather's Intelligence likewise inform'd us, That a Person (who has lately given Proofs sufficient, as well of his undaunted Courage, as of his Conduct and Abilities) found Means to lay before Her, as often as was requisite, the Dangers wherewith Her *Authority* was threatned, and what Methods might preserve it. But tho' Truths, coming from a few Hands, may make strong Impressions in the Hearts of Princes, yet 'tis seldom safe for 'em to exert the *Regal Power*, unless they see Numbers dispos'd to concur with 'em in it. So that for some time She was compell'd to appear contented, and suffer this Madness to range about, under no Controul, being in a manner without Aids, but what She derived from Her own Wisdom, and the Firmness of Her own Resolution. . . But here my Intelligence by Letters stopp'd; for my Grandfather and I, the beginning of *Michaelmas-Term* came to *London*, where I could not find you.

Sir T. D. I was then in *Kent*, looking after the Buildings at my new Purchase.

Sir R. C. What follows, is from my own Observation. When she had heard of the sawcy Motion, you say you were pitch'd upon to make, for removing a certain *Lady*



from, &c. and when Her own Ears had been Witnesses to the Pernicious Doctrines boldly laid down, and so plainly tending to change the Constitution, both in Church and State; and when She saw how much all this extravagant Insolence was disrelish'd by the People; and when She found how few in number the Mad-bitten Persons were, compar'd with those who continu'd uninfected, She thought it Safe and Seasonable to apply some wholesom Remedies to the *Distemper* that had rag'd so long. And in order to it, She judg'd it proper, at divers times, to consult several of the ablest State-Physicians. She saw what Industry had been us'd for many Years to extinguish in the Minds of Men all sort of Principles, and in their room to plant *Latitudinarian* Notions in Politicks and in Religion. Her Wisdom led Her to think, that a Prince is slenderly guarded on the Throne, when the Subject believes himself at liberty to set what Limits he pleases to his Duty, as well in Divine, as Secular Affairs; and yet this is a Doctrine She must have often hear'd advanced. 'Twas visible to Her, that nothing enabled the Few to rule the Many, but the Tie of Religion, and Reverence to their ancient Constitution. The first, She saw had been neglected, by some who should have been the Guardians of it, and its Essentials sacrificed to the Hopes of rising higher. The other She doubted was undermin'd by the daily Attempts of a potent Faction, who could like no Form of Government which did not set them as well above their Prince,

as above their Fellow-Subjects. This Prospect made Her think it needful to call to Her Assistance divers of the prime Persons in the Kingdom, Men conspicuous either for their deep Skill in Matters of Government, where some of 'em had sat at *Helm*, without any just Reproach that could be fix'd upon their Management; or for their long Conversation in Courts, where they had heretofore shin'd with Lustre; or for their great Parts and powerful Eloquence; or for having persu'd the true Interest of their Country against *France*, under Reigns where the Prince did not much countenance such Patriots; or they were valued by Her for their high Birth and ample Fortunes, not made out of publick Spoils, but descended to 'em from their Ancestors; or She saw 'em respected by the People for their Steadiness in not being blown hither and thither by the Breath of Faction, and for not yielding to that Power which design'd to ensnare and crush 'em. She saw others of these esteem'd for their generous retreat from Business, when it seem'd for Her Service in that Juncture. And doubtless it gave 'em a large share in Her good Opinion to observe their Modesty in this Retirement, accompany'd with a watchful Care all the while of Her Interest, and with an undaunted Resolution to oppose this Torrent, or to divert its Course by proper Methods.

Sir *T. D.* Which intrepid Courage of theirs, I sadly own, has redeem'd Her Affairs, and has wrought their own Safety.

Sir

Sir R. C. She pitch'd on these, with others, as the ablest Hands for administring Remedies to cure the inveterate Madness of some People. And after many Consultations, it was agreed, That no Climate was so pernicious to those who were thus bitten, as that about *St. James's*; whereupon to make an Experiment, two or three were order'd to withdraw: And would you think it? In five or six Days they began to recover their Wits; they ask now for the Meat they loath'd before, they begin to know their Mistress, they have left off Barking, and some of 'em talk like reasonable Creatures.

Sir T. D. I am afraid several of us must taste this Physick, and I among the rest; but whenever this happens, I have a fine Seat in *Kent* to retire to, if I can go off clear with all my Gains; but I am not without my Fears, to be one of the first Sacrifices to the Vengeance of a People upon whom such Spoil and Rapine has been committed.

Sir R. C. I must deal freely with you Sir *Thomas*, 'tis to be doubted you are not quite out of danger. But they tell me the best Room you have, is not above *twelve* Foot high; Where then can you hang up your *Guida Reri*? 'Tis an admirable Piece. I saw it as I pass'd thro' *Italy*. You had better part with it; for People laugh at you for having the Representation of *Modesty* and *Liberality* in your House, when you have nothing of 'em in your Heart. Take my Advice, get some Friend to speak to the Duke of *Beaufort* to buy it. 'Tis a Picture would become him,  
who



who truly possesses those and all the other Virtues that should adorn a Nobleman, descended from the Greatest of our Kings; to whose Race he, and his Ancestors, have maintain'd an unspotted Fidelity. And of whom (if we had a *Horace* among us) he might justly say, *Macenas atavis edite Regibus*.

Sir T. D. I love Money, let him give my Price and he shall have it. But go on with the Progress of this great Cure

Sir R. C. 'Twas likewise intimated, that change of Air would have a very good effect in restoring to their Senses some who us'd to meet at a certain Place in *W——ster*, where those who had been Bitten, took great delight in Biting others, and they have been lately order'd into the Country; where, 'tis to be hop'd, they will lose this Madness, which is not in fashion there. At last, she thought it proper to bring some of the State-Physicians I told you of, near Her Person. Her first Choice was an auspicious Omen to what was like to follow; for she pitch'd upon a Man as popular as the Favour of a Court could possibly shine upon, whose Ancestors were enobled by their heroick Exploits in *France*, and who himself is endow'd with all their Perfections: Whose first Step in the World was, to venture his Life and Fortune at the *Revolution*, in the rescue of his Country, when so few of his Rank were willing to run the same Hazzard; who has a polish'd Mind and sound Understanding, and who is in full Possession of that sedate Temper, without which 'tis difficult to preserve Greatness, so many

many Storms blowing continually, upon those who have reach'd the Summet. Not long after, she commanded the D—ke of B——ham's Service in a very high Station, whose unshaken Fidelity to Her, and constant Marks of Respect he shew'd the Prince, when others acted a contrary Part; whose superior Judgment, join'd with his universal Experience and Knowledge in State Affairs; and that true Masculine Eloquence, wherewith he was able to support Her Interest, and expose Her Enemies, made him the best part of the Peoples Choice, before he was Hers.

Sir T. D. I am afraid she advises with, and has chosen Persons, we shall never find ways to Engage or Influence, as we have done others.

Sir R. C. If she has not, we may bid farewell to the Constitution.

Sir T. D. With all our Craft, and specious Pretences, we could never insinuate our selves into that Old *Nestor* of the State, the Duke of L—ds: Him we have never been able to Deceive or Frighten: He has set us at Defiance for near forty Years; and the more we have endeavour'd to Obscure his high Merits, the Brighter they have shin'd.

Sir R. C. That Great Man is an eminent Instance of the Partiality and Injustice of your Party, who cry'd up for Patriots those who were selling their Country to *France*, in the Reign of King *Charles II.* at the same Time running down and impeaching the Minister who was most active in opposing those Measures, as is evident from authentick Instruments,

struments; and whose Wisdom and Foresight made that Match, by which the *Protestant* Religion has been since secur'd. Nor has your Malice to him ever slept; but his true Worth has been Proof against all your Assaults; and no Object could please the People more, than to see him, at near eighty Years Old, appear a Second Time in the rescue of Liberty from the Tyranny of a Faction, and as Useful and as Active now, as he was twenty Years ago at *York*. Pray, is it not a great Heart-breaking to your Party, to see him and the Earl of *R——*ster favour'd and consulted?

Sir *T. D.* They have both the same Place in our Affections.

Sir *R. C.* Can there be a stronger Instance given, of the Self-designing Principles of you *Modern Whigs*, than your Usage of that Earl at the beginning of the *Revolution*? He had newly been a Martyr for the Church-Interest, and for his Zeal to it had lost his Staff, which had never been carried by cleaner or more skilful Hands. His great Abilities had been try'd and known; his Father's Merits were highly valu'd, after it came calmly to be consider'd, how virtuously he had resisted the Incroachments of Regal Power, in the first Heats, when Monarchy was restor'd, and his Relation to the late *Q—n*, so universally belov'd, could not but have its due weight; so that no Man was more justly Popular than he. But one of the first Steps you made, was to whisper the Uncle out of the Niece's Favour: However, you could not



not cut the Ties of Nature ; She still inclin'd that way, which put you upon endeavouring to blast his Honour by notorious Lies, and repeated Libels : And you have gone on in the same Course for several Years, renewing your base Aspersions as often as you saw he was like to be shin'd upon at Court ; but your Envy and Malice is now defeated, and you see he has, at last, a share in the Administration, which he long ago deserv'd.

Sir T. D. I will impart another Secret to my Friend : Whenever you see our Fury strongly bent upon any particular Person, take it for a Rule, That Man has true Worth and Integrity, is Faithful to his Prince, and a Lover of the *English* Constitution.

Sir R. C. I wonder then the Duke of O——d has not been the Object of your Malice ; for there is no Great and Noble Qualification, which does not shine in him.

Sir T. D. We saw 'twas no purpose. However, you must own we did our Best to prevent his growth ; and all along to intercept him in the Progress he was making to the highest Pitch of Fame, taking most industrious Care to employ his celebrated Valour ; but when it could not, with any Decency, be avoided. He is among those whom we dare not attempt, but by private Whispers, they are so Popular.

Sir R. C. And, Is he not so universally valu'd upon just Grounds ? Is there any Family in the three Kingdoms that has serv'd the Crown better ? Will not his Grandfather and Father's high Merits be remembred and acknowledged

known by Posterity? One so Affable, Magnificent, who has a Courage so bright and keen, and such a constant Disposition to do good Offices, must needs be a Darling of the People. I have talk'd with several who knew him in *Ireland*, and they tell me, He was more Belov'd there, than ever any other Lord-Lieutenant was Detested.

Sir T. D. That's a bold Word; for I have known some sufficiently Odious to that Kingdom: But notwithstanding the Figure his Grace makes in both Nations, I have in my Paper, call'd *The new Scheme*, been glancing at him.

Sir R. C. But methinks with very impotent Spight and Virulence. In another Instance, Can you and your conceal'd Brethren of the Pen, who shoot from behind a Wall, imagin you can ever be able to hurt One of so much real Worth, perfect Virtue, sound Judgment and Understanding, and of so unblemish'd a Reputation as my Lord *Pe——t* is own'd to be, among all the best Men in the Kingdom, of either Party?

Sir T. D. But our Papers are calculated for the worst part of the Vulgar, and we hope the Majority is there.

Sir R. C. You will find it otherwise when the *Pe——t* meets.

Sir T. D. There is a young Hero growing up, the Duke of *A——le*, who we are afraid may come in Time to do the *Q——n* more Service than consists with our Interest.

Sir

Sir R. C. And therefore you have endeavour'd to fally his Character in your foremention'd Libel : But his Fame is above the reach of your groveling Envy : Nor can People be easily brought to forget the Battle of *Oudenard*, in which Action, as well as in many others, this youngest Son of *Mars*, had so large a Share, and shew'd so much Courage, Skill and Conduct, as will convey his Renown to all future Ages.

Sir T. D. The more we are afraid of Men, the more we think it our Duty to defame 'em : Mr. St. J——n grows too fast in Reputation, and therefore I had a flirt at him.

Sir R. C. But you can obtain Belief among none who have convers'd with him, who have had to do with him in his former Post, or who have heard him speak in the House of Commons. His good Nature, his application to Letters, his vivacity and spirit in Conversation, and his Gentleman-like manner of speaking in Publick, strengthen'd with solid Sense and Elocution, will ever set him above your unwearied Endeavours to suppress rising Merit.

Sir T. D. What do you think of my comparing the Deserts of the Earl of —— with those of the Lord D———b.

Sir R. C. Ask the whole Nation ! But I could perceive none of that general Alarm which you mention, at his being turn'd out ; I heard only a few *Modern Whigs*, whose farthest Lengths he has been ever willing to go, were discontented at it. Perhaps you may think



think he was Popular upon his Father's Account, who we all know was so firm to the Religion of his Country, so faithful to all the Princes he serv'd, such a plague to the Mistresses, so irreconcilable an Enemy to France, and, to use your own Words, *Never to be influenced by any hopes of Profit, Salary or Pension.* English Men love those who come of a good Strain; and let me assure you, Sir, where One was sorry at the E—l's Dismission, a Hundred rejoic'd to see the Baron, descended from a Father so Generous, Faithful and Brave, receive this great Mark of his Sovereign's Favour.

Sir T. D. I ventur'd to Touch upon the E—l of R—rs.

Sir R. C. He can defend his own Cause with his Sword, better than any of his Friends can do it with Words, or their Pens. But if your Party is angry with him now, what will they be when they come to hear of his successful Negotiations at the Court of H—r, for the Q—ns Service, and further Security of the Succession in the *Protestant Line*?

Sir T. D. We cannot be always sure of prevailing in the Scandals we spread, but 'tis good to be still doing, for what does not work now may serve Turn another Day; and therefore you see in my *New Scheme*, I have not forgot Mr. P—get, Sir T. M—sel and Mr. B—son. And we must proceed in the same way with all that are or shall be brought into the Q—n's Affairs, for it prepares the Minds of Men to receive the future Lies and detraacting Stories we shall be neces-

sitated to raise, to support our Cause. You cannot think but it vexes us at Heart to see several new Persons employ'd, whose natural Capacities and Embellishments will soon be improv'd by Business, and whose large Fortunes will certainly induce 'em to take care of a Kingdom where they have so great a Stake; and upon that Score, we must begin betimes to throw on 'em all the Dirt we can.

Sir R. C. But I cannot imagin what Devil provok'd you to meddle with G——I W——b, a Gentleman so inoffensive among his Friends at Home, and so terrible to his Enemies Abroad.

Sir T. D. I was directed by our Party to cast some Reflections on him. They did not like that he should gain so signal and important a Victory as that of *Wynendale*, with so few Troops, against such Numbers of the *French*. They griev'd at this addition to his Fame, and were sorry to see a Man, grateful to the People, so countenanc'd at Court, and who could never be induc'd to depend on them. Besides, he was known to be devoted to the Crown and Church-Interest, which Men are not for our Turn; He was therefore thought fit to make one Article in my *New Scheme*. Let the Q—n and Her Church-M——ry, as the People call 'em, bring in whom they please, you will find our Endeavours shall not be wanting to blast their Reputations, even tho' they should choose some from among our selves, unless they can be brought to pitch upon Persons of such Importance as are able to carry our Point intirely

ly, and restore us to all our former Authority, which I must confess will be somewhat difficult. However, we are almost confident our restless Working, our secret Undermining, our Dexterity, and above all, our audacious Spirit of Lying, shall do more than all the true Wisdom of your Side. In short, our Party alone deserves Power, for we stick at nothing to obtain, or keep it.

Sir R. C. I suppose you printed off vast quantities of this Libel.

Sir T. D. It has cost me above a Hundred Pound to disperse it about the Town, and round the Country; and upon this change of Measures, as to the Ad———ty, I shall be oblig'd to Publish some new Editions, wherein I will leave out the E. of P——ough, to whose Fortune we have done such real Injuries, that indeed we ought to have let him alone in our Pamphlets.

Sir R. C. I believe his Lordship will return you no Thanks, as thinking your Reflections redound to his Reputation.

Sir T. D. But I cannot avoid it; for in his room I must insert the E. of N——ham, or be at the Charge and Trouble of publishing some other Paper, since in this juncture he is by no means to be forgotten, who has been so long one of the principal Objects of our Spight.

Sir R. C. What you think fit to do now, or hereafter, will as little affect him, as all your past Endeavours; his severe Virtue and Honesty; his rigid observance of his Word, and of his Duty to the Crown; his known Zeal for the Laws and establish'd Religion, have plac'd



him above your reach. Nor could he ever be attack'd with any prospect of Success, but at Seasons when the Kingdom was running Mad; much less at present, when we are returning to our Senses. The more he is sifted, the more his Integrity, Foresight and Wisdom, with all the Abilities that compose a good States-man, become apparent. I remember in the Pamphlets you publish, to have often met with this Expression, *The two Brothers are alike*, He and the L--d G—sey. I join Issue with you; they resemble one another in Perfections, in sound Sense, Eloquence, knowledge of the Laws, sincerity to their Friends, affection to their Country, whereof they are both so great Ornaments, as it redounds to the Honour of *England*, that One Family has produc'd Two such Men.

Sir T. D. We have an old hatred to the Earl, which Time shall never soften. He was a Minister of K— W—m's Choice, at his first coming over, when right Measures were intended by the Court. The D—ke of Sh—ry, and divers others I could name, are in the same Case. You may well imagin we were extreamly alarm'd at the beginning, to observe in what manner several of the Employments were fill'd: We saw Persons like to be on the Stage of Business, who forwarded and promoted the *Revolution* quite upon other Motives and Prospects than what I and many other busie Fellows had in our Hearts, and before our Eyes. We found the Church of *England* Party, and some of the Old *Whigs*, were for reforming the Errors,  
mi-

mistaken Politicks, Corruptions and Profusions, wherewith the Voices of the People had charg'd former Governments; and for preserving their Country from the Power of *France*, which was become Exorbitant, and for securing their Religion from *Popery*, which King J—s had openly attempted to introduce. And as the late K—g had been invited over to these good Ends, so we found his first Ministers resolv'd to act pursuant to these Principles, upon which the Church Party came into the *Revolution*; and they were in a fair way of putting the Affairs of the Three Kingdoms upon a true Foot, and a solid Foundation: For an Honest, Provident, Moderate and Just Government, could hardly have been invaded by Force, or at least would have been defended by the Hands of the whole People.

Sir R. C. But none of all this suited with your Designs.

Sir T. D. Not at all. We, who have since had the Honour to be call'd *Modern Whigs*, had quite different Views. I, and all my Kindred, and let me tell you, we are a numerous Family and widely spread, were determin'd to make the *Revolution* turn to some more profitable Account to us; our Aim therefore was only to change *Persons*, and let *Things* continue as they were found. 'Twas but too apparent, That an Administration, which contemplated nothing but National Interest, would be a barren Field for our Industry to work in; so we thought it proper to Form a Scheme of Executive Power, wherein no former Error should be corrected, no

mistakes in Policy mended, no Corruptions punish'd, and all sort of Profusions encourag'd.

Sir R. C. I believe I have found out one of those Secrets which you say you reserve in *Petto*. Pray confess to me, was not the putting in Execution this fine Scheme, the true intent and meaning of what your Party calls *Revolution-Principles*, so often talk'd on?

Sir T. D. Whatever Notions you Churchmen might have in your Heads, I must own we meant nothing but to get what we could; and these popular Words were the Disguise under which we have all along cover'd our Intentions. To speak plain Truth, I know of no other Principle our Party has had at Court, in the City, or St. S——n's Ch——l, but to omit no Opportunities of growing Rich; and we had no way to bring this about, but to blast the Reputation of all those who we guess'd would interrupt us in our Progress; and as at the beginning we had successfully insinuated wrong Notions of some Things and some Persons to that excellent Prince R. W. when some of us had got Power, giving him the worst Impressions of the best and ablest Men in his Dominions, so we continued in the same Course till we had rendered several of the best Men of the Kingdom suspected to him, or to the People; and this we did either by Whispers at *Kensington*, or Libels in the Streets, till at last we had beat down all Opposition.

Sir R. C. But several great Men who had been remov'd thro' the Suggestions of your interested Malice, were afterward restored to

Favour



Favour and Authority, upon account of the Weight they had, and upon the Strength of their own Merits.

Slr T. D. As often as this happen'd we rais'd new Batteries, and plied 'em with fresh Artillery, rendring them so uneasie that they were compell'd to quit their Posts. Whenever we did not like the Scene, by our Clamours and ungovernable Spirit, we got it alter'd to another more agreeable to our Humour or Designs. And tho' the frequent Change of Hands, for these last twenty Years, was perhaps imputed to Levity in the Court among the undiscerning Vulgar; yet I who know better can tell you it all proceeded from the secret Workings of our Party, who were resolv'd to suffer none in any considerable Post, who we thought would oppose our loose and corrupt Management; and this is the Reason why you have seen in and out, some of 'em more than once, several of the prime Men in the Kingdom for Parts or Fortunes, Nobles and Gentlemen; as for inst. the Dukes of S—ry, L—ds and B—; the Earls of P—ough, N—ha. and R—; Sir W—am T—al, Sir S—n H—, Sir C. H—ges, Mr. St. J—ns, Mr. H—, with many others of all Qualities. Peradventure the People thought the Publick was like a Man on the Bed of Sicknes, uneasie, and tossing up and down, whereas at bottom there was no more in all these frequent Alterations, but that we were always removing the resolute Obstacles to our Avarice and Ambition.

Sir R. C. Are you at liberty to tell me how you your selves have maintain'd your Ground, and constantly preserv'd some hold or other?

Sir T. D. I thought you understood that as well as my self. We were known not to starve our Cause, and to promote all sort of Profusion in the publick Treasure, which Conduct has made us many Friends.

Sir R. C. In truth you have let none of your faithful Servants die of Hunger.

Sir T. D. I hope 'twill be recorded to our immortal Honour in all future Ages, that we suffer'd two Foreigners so far to be enrich'd with the Spoils of *England*, as to carry off a Million and a half between 'em. A larger Sum than had been squander'd by the Mistresses of King *James II.* *K. Charles II.* *Henry VIII.* *Edward IV.* and I may safely add, the Favourites and Minions of *Richard II.* and *Edward II.*

Sir R. C. 'Tis no wonder then we are so much in Debt; for I doubt we have been fleeced by for the other Strangers.

Sir T. D. But if we had not conniv'd at others, in such Abuses of the Publick, what could we have got our selves? We might perhaps have made pidling Fortunes, but he could never have gather'd any of that delicious Fruit which I call my *Plumbs*. They wink'd at our getting, and our Clamours kept them in Power.

Sir R. C. Take care you are not sometime or other choak'd with the Stones of these *Plumbs*.

Sir T. D. All I trust in is, that our Numbers put us beyond Correction. But having origi-

originally form'd such a gainful Scheme, had we not reason to libel, turn out, accuse, defame and keep under all Persons who had Parts, Interest and Inclinations to give it Opposition?

Sir R. C. I cannot but acknowledge you have taken a right Way to an ill End, and that for the first Ten Years you were as prosperous Robbers of the Publick as ever undertook that Business. In particular you, Sir Thomas, in later Times, when such vast Gettings were by no means so easie, have shewn your Dexterity and Parts, or at least your good Fortune.

Sir T. D. 'Twould have been hard if I who had so great a hand in cooking up this fine Dish, should not have had the licking of my Fingers. I deserv'd from our Party, that they should suffer me to build up to my self a large Fortune and come to great Honours, if it were only in recompence of certain Notions they first receiv'd from me; and they were in general, to discountenance all superior Merit whatsoever; at no time to let Maleversation be punish'd; and when they saw any Man from his Parts and Application like to be considerable in the State, to level all their Arrows at him, and to take him down if possible.

Sir R. C. 'Twas upon these Principles I suppose you have all along declar'd such open War with Mr. H—ley.

Sir T. D. Had we not Reason? Could any Man deserve our Indignation more than he? From his very first appearance in Pa—ment, I foretold he would be a Scourge to the Scheme



Scheme we were then promoting, and in time be able to defeat it. I had heard of his natural Parts, improv'd by Letters; his Industry and desire of informing himself in the universal Business of the Nation, which we fear'd would turn at last to our Confusion, whose Management could bear no Inquiries.

Sir R. C. Besides you knew he deriv'd Courage from his brave Father, which you apprehended would give him a Spirit fit to cope with your outrageous Fury, and set him above those Doubts and Fears which prevent the doing of many good and right Things in publick Places. Seeing him thus qualified, so popular betimes, and observing in the Commission of Accounts what a weight he was upon all your Golden Measures, you resolved to set your Mark upon a Patriot so untractable, therefore you have seldom fail'd of pelting him in all you write.

Sir T. D. You have heard how Parson Stevens and I made him and the D—ke of M——gh the two Hero's in one of our most famous Libels.

Sir R. C. I have seen it, and have been told how zealously your Party defended one of the Authors of that Invective, for you did not appear. All the Great Men of the Kingdom at some season or other have been honour'd with the Marks of your Displeasure.

Sir T. D. But we have persevered in nothing so much as in our Malice to Mr. H—ley; and if we could have prevail'd, you should have seen our Attempts upon him should have been of a higher Nature.

Sir

Sir R. C. You had better let him alone, he is too able for you. And the mention made of him in your *New Scheme* has done him no hurt, and your Party no good. The Services he has done his Q——n and Country in this Juncture, and the undaunted Courage and great Abilities he has shewn in it are visible, and will be always acknowledg'd. And to wind up our Discourse ; let your side do what it can, the People will be satisfied, *That too many have been bitten, and were become mad ; to which Madness, the Application of proper Remedies was no longer to be avoided.*

Sir T. D. Well then, we must lie quiet 'till another Biting happens.

Sir R. C. I believe there's no Danger of that : A Church of *England* Ministry will always be able to support the Throne. The Q——n has the Sceptre in Her own Hands : She has Great and Wise Men about Her : *Wisdom arises from a number of Counsellors ;* and I hope Her Affairs are in a better Condition, because upon a larger Bottom.

Sir T. D. I doubt 'tis beyond our Power to shake 'em, unless we *Modern Whigs* can prevail in the Elections.

Sir R. C. Let Men of true Worth, good Estates, and Church of *England* Principles be chosen, we set you at defiance, and you cannot then disturb the Government. 'Tis true, you have gone far in your Endeavours to infect the Nation with wrong Notions of the best Patriots, which is the Reason I have presum'd to mention many Great Names ; for our Conferences happening always to come out in Print, I thought it might be

be seasonable to set Persons in a truer Light than you have done, which perhaps may prove some sort of Antidote to the Poison you have dispers'd.

Sir T. D. Upon the whole, for ought I see, our side is like to have a very hard Game to play; we hourly receive some Mortification or other; I heard this Morning, the E. of J——sey has lately receiv'd some fresh Mark of the Q——n's Favour.

Sir R. C. I thought no Party cou'd have any Objections to him, he has behav'd himself in the World with so much Honour, Civility, and good Nature.

Sir T. D. Our Prejudice to him, is, that my Lord Clarendon's History commends his Family so much. He comes of a Race that have been always faithful to their Prince, and such can never have our good Opinion. He was one of K. W. first Servants, and few of those have prov'd stanch Whigs. Besides, he was concern'd in a Transaction towards the latter end of the last Reign, that was for the Service of the K. and Church, which we cannot forgive.

Sir R. C. Confess the Truth, did you not conceive some secret Pleasure, to hear of my Lord Ang——sey's Death?

Sir T. D. 'Tis the only Consolation we have lately had. We were always afraid of his bright Parts, his sedate Temper, his Perspicuity, his natural and easie Eloquence, his fearless and active Mind, in opposing wrong Measures.

Sir R. C. All honest Men mourn'd as much as you rejoic'd: But we have to comfort us,  
two



two Verses of *Virgil* quoted in your new Scheme,

— — — *Uno Avulso non deficit alter  
Aureus & simili frondescit virga metallo.*

Sir T. D. If the younger Brother prove such an Affliction to our Party in the H—se of L—ds, as he always was in the H—se of C—ns, we shall wish the Elder restor'd to Life.

Sir R. C. Let me further add, We are not for being upon that narrow Bottom, which has been the favourite Practice of your Party. By what I can learn, particular Persons among you will not be rejected, who really have Parts and Worth. On the contrary, I rather am apt to believe they will be gladly embrac'd, provided they shew a firm Disposition to join in measures for preserving the Constitution in Church and State, and no longer to walk in the Tract of their Brother *Whigs*, in making use of the Authority, Interest, and Revenues of the Crown, against it. By what I can find, 'tis being in the Hands of an insolent and rapacious Party, that we endeavour to avoid, whose Weight we have already felt, and of whose Cruelty, without this seasonable stop, no doubt we should have tasted. For we all saw plainly enough, what would have follow'd, if *Cragg* had been willing to save his Life by Perjury.

Sir T. D. I must own to you, we had never a round Majority, but I was for making you feel, as well as see, our Power: *Root and Branch* were the first Words I was taught to

to speak by my Grandfather *Double*, who had been an Old *Oliverian* Red-Coat.

Sir *R. C.* Sure you would have fav'd me, for old Acquaintance-sake.

Sir *T. D.* Perhaps I might, but my Mouth would have strangely water'd at your fine Seat of *Sutton-Comover*.

Sir *R. C.* 'Twas high time then to disarm such Wolves of their Fangs, and such Lions of their Claws. But you shall see in us, quite a different Disposition, when your Tyranny is put out of Ability to do further Mischiefs, when the Regal Authority is asserted to its just Degrees, and when the Laws have regain'd their former Vigour.

Sir *T. D.* I rejoice to find you think of Moderation.

Sir *R. C.* Not in the manner you have done, who never preach'd it up, but when you were odious to the People, or obnoxious to the State, and when you were led to it not by Generosity and good Nature, but Fear of Punishment. You began to use that Word the 8th of *March*, 170 $\frac{1}{2}$ , but in *February* 1707, you extinguish'd the very Thoughts of it. You think it a Virtue when you are Low and in Disgrace, and forget it when you have got the Power. You resume the Discourse of it now again; but if, for the Sins of the People, this Kingdom should be once more visited with your Majority, you would give us Proofs what Fury can perform, provok'd and greedy of Revenge.

Sir *T. D.* I would fain have *Great Britain* make one Experiment more of our Moderate

rate

rate Principles, and you should see what very Lambs we would become: We would only desire to environ the Throne with all our own Creatures, have all the Posts of Honour, Trust, and Profit; be first admitted to all advantageous Bargains with the Crown, have the Refusal of all Contracts, Subscriptions, and Projects, where somewhat is to be got; give us the handling of all the Money, allow us but these small Preferences and Advantages over our Fellow Subjects: In the mean while, sit you still, and let us eat out all your Lands and Tenements with Taxes of our devising; let us have the sole Management of a long protracted War, and gather our wonted Fruits from it: Let us introduce a few fresh Oaths, to create fresh Divisions among you; and after you have given way to all this, you shall then perceive our Moderation.

Sir R. C. I know this was all along your *Scheme*, and 'tis probable you still pursue it. But you have been lately stop'd in your Career. The Church-Party will be ready to carry on and support the War with the utmost Vigour, 'till *Spain* is recovered, and the Power of *France* so reduced, as to come to honourable, safe and just Terms of Peace. But I make no doubt we shall better apply our Strength, and manage the War with more Frugality than you *Whigs* have done, and not bear such lavish Expences of the Publick Treasure as you have been accusom'd to: In order to which, all good Patriots must exert themselves, and no longer suffer Upstarts, and much the minor Part, to destroy  
the



the Whole. Your side is indeed grown Great and Wealthy by our Spoils ; but 'tis hop'd, you have not yet quite broke our Spirits, and that the old *British* Courage is not yet so suppress'd, but that some will be found to defend the Landed, against the Mony'd Interest ; for there I fancy the chief Trial of Skill will be. Tho' you are able to bribe our Burroughs, as yet, you have not quite bought us out of 'em ; and hitherto, new Names and Families, out of the Scum and Lees of the People, sprung up in these corrupt Times, have not intirely over-run the Nation. God be thank'd, the Landed-Gentlemen of ancient Descent, are still powerful. And if in this Juncture, they are less moderate, and shew more warmth than usual, 'tis not in the least to be wonder'd at, and they will be fairly absolv'd by all the judging World, when 'tis consider'd how the Queen has been us'd, what Attempts your angry and desperate Faction have made upon every Part of the Constitution, and what bitter and inflaming Books and Pamphlets you have lately publish'd, insomuch that it would be a Miracle, if all your Fury did not draw on some Resentments. But I think your Coach is below.

Sir T. D. I order'd it to come with Six Horses, intending to take two or three Turns in *Hide-Park* this fine Morning. Are you dispos'd that way ?

Sir R. C. With all my Heart, and there we may finish our Conference.

T H E

THE SECOND  
DIALOGUE  
BETWEEN

*Sir Thomas Double*

AND

*Sir Richard Comover.*

SIR R. C. *S*IR Thomas, you were proceeding to give some Account of your self, and the large Hopes you had entertain'd, when I made a Digression, by my Narrative of the Biting at St. James's. Did you really imagin, by the prodigious Wealth you had accumulated, by the Interest you had among the *Modern Whigs*, from being let in to all their Secrets, and by having so strenuously carried on their Designs, that you might modestly pretend to be made a Peer?

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Sir

Sir *T. D.* Indeed, I believ'd it practicable ; for I had offer'd Eight Thousand Pound, the Market Price, and plac'd my Money right, the hardest Step at Court ; our Club likewise had firmly promis'd to cry up my Pretensions, with united Voices, to put their All upon it, and to urge, that this my Promotion, was the only Expedient to save the Publick, ruin *France*, and preserve Credit.

Sir *R. C.* But there were some wise and sober Persons near the Throne, who would have hindred the Approach of such a One as you are known to be.

Sir *T. D.* The Passage had heretofore been widen'd, and Care would have been taken, that my Character, as well as other Things of more Importance, should have been kept from the Q—n's Knowledge : Besides, I would have stol'n into the Court under the Disguise of immense Riches, which have cover'd the natural Vices, sordid Minds, and mean Extraction of more than one Pretender to a Title : And as to the Great Men, from whom I expected Opposition, with our assuming Boldness and Noise, as had been our frequent Practice, we should have over-born their Power, which perhaps you may think was all in all ; but let me tell you, their sole Authority was very brief ; they were Viceroys, but often we would be Viceroys over 'em.

Sir *R. C.* I believe, if the Great Men had been able to govern more of your Motions than they did, Things had not been at the Pass with you, they now are.

Sir



Sir *T. D.* In some Instances we were a little too head-strong : However, few of us complain'd of this, and all of us found our Account in it ; for we did, and got whatever we pleas'd ; besides, 'tis much sweeter to govern, than to be govern'd. If you will be of a Party that only proposes a fair and quiet Administration, you must be advis'd, and sometimes directed by such as sit at Helm, who know more than can come within your Knowledge. But if you are of a Faction, that, without Interest in the People, or Merits towards the Crown, aspire to engross all Employments in the State (supposing you to have a strong Majority) you are to proceed in another manner ; you must value your selves upon your own Strength, whether real or accidental ; you must have separate Councils, and you must now and then carry Points in opposition to those who pretend to bear the Sway. In them, you must call every Difference in Opinion, Desertion, and threaten to retaliate ; but as often as you judge proper, you must take the liberty to follow your own Lights : A Faction that takes this Course, soon puts its self upon equal Foot, if not above any Ministry ; they can turn in, or turn out, whom they please, as Men happen to be Objects of their Love, or Hatred ; nothing can go on without 'em, nothing can be refus'd 'em ; and if they meet with no Check, they will render the Regal Power it self precarious.

Sir *R. C.* From whence 'tis to be collected, your Pretensions must have been allow'd of.

Sir T. D. Beyond all Dispute, but I quietly laid 'em down of my own accord.

Sir R. C. Pray how came that about?

Sir T. D. You must know, I am a great Lover of judicial Astrology, in which sublime Science, I come not much behind *Isaac Bickerstaff*, Esq; and returning one Night home very Melancholly, upon the Miscarriage of the Platform I told you I had laid, to remove certain Obstacles that stood in our way at Court; and finding it had alarm'd several of the first Rank, begot Indignation in some, and Tenderness in others, to see a Princess so us'd who had Ruled with so much Benignity; and that it had open'd the Eyes of many, into which so much Dust had been thrown, that we thought 'em stark blind; and reflecting on the Consequences this Disappointment might have, I grew very dull, and judg'd it best to divert my self a little with my Books; and so I turn'd over my *Arabian* and other Astrological Writers, such as *Giber Hispalensis Arabs*, *Almaeon Almanforius*, *Alpetragius*, *Averroes*, *Abraham-Aven-Hesre*, *Rambam*, *Albumesar*, or *Japhar*, *Hoamar*, *Alboazen-Haly*, *Rotboddinus Shirazita*, *Thebit Benchora*, and *Friar Bacon*.

Sir R. C. One would think you conjur'd now, with these rumbling Names.

Sir T. D. At the same time, consulting the Stars, and having erected my Scheme, I found our Party lay under a very evil Influence of the Planets: My Astrological Observations made it appear, that a *Comet* with a long Tail, should be visible from the 14th of  
of

of *December*, to the 23d of *March*, 1710. threatening this our *Hemisphere* with *Famine* — among *Knaves* that now wallow in *Wealth*. *Mortality* — of old *Seditious Principles*, newly vamp'd up, to pull down reveal'd *Religion*, and undermine the *Constitution*. *Great Dearth* — among the *Whigs* of common *Sense*, sound *Councils*, and right *Measures*. *Wars* — between those whose *Interest* it is to defend, and those whose *Business* it has been to rob their *Country*. *Plagues* — of different sorts, affecting those who are desirous to be quiet. *Nipping Frosts* — in *July*, *August*, and *September*. *Portents* — betokening thin *Levees*, and falling off from great *Men*, of *Flatterers*, and the servile *Followers* of their *Fortune*: And lastly, *Inundations* — of *Projectors*, reformed *Whigs*, and *Expedient-Mongers*, pressing and pouring in upon those who were to have the *Management*: And upon the whole, I saw this blazing *Star* foreboded to us decay of *Interest*, and loss of the *Peoples Hearts*.

Sir R. C. I see where the *Shooe* pinches; the poor *Doctor* must be the *Button*, to bear all the *Blame*: But let me tell you, that *Impe* — t was only the *Place* where the *Sore* happen'd to break out, and thither all the *Humours* flow'd, that had been gathering in the *Body-Politick* many *Years* before. Can you imagine one *Fault* in *Conduct* could have lost you a *People* who had patiently indur'd your *Weight* so long? That last *Folly* serv'd for no more than to close up the *reckoning*; but they had infinite other *Ar-*



ticles wherewith to charge your Administration, even from the Birth of it. I shall only refresh your Memory with some few : As for Example ; Your total neglect of *Ireland*, at the beginning of the *Revolution*, when you might have had the Sword of my Lord *Tyrconnel* for asking ; which War cost *England* several Millions : Your shameful Negligence in the Coin, which you suffer'd to be Clipt 'till the Species was reduc'd one half in Weight ; which might have been prevented, by refusing clipt Money in the principal Receipts, as had been practis'd in the preceeding Reigns, whereby the Kingdom lost so many Millions as an *English-man* must blush to Name. Your running the Nation into such immense Debts, much the largest Part of which might have been sav'd, if you had put the War upon a reasonable Foot ; and if you had rais'd your Money within the Year, as you knew was practicable, but it did not suit with your Designs. Add to this, the Countenance, or at least Impunity, you gave to all Depredations whatsoever on the Publick.

Sir *T. D.* I have no reason to complain of the Clipping, I laid the Foundation of my Fortune by it.

Sir *R. C.* There are none of the Errors in Government, committed these last Twenty Years, which have not turn'd richly to the Account of particular Men ; as the first Selling of the *East-India* Trade, and the erecting Corporations with such Powers, and for so long a Term, as may render 'em independent

dent of the State, if they are not well look'd after, or very modest themselves.

Sir T. D. You think then these, and the like Proceedings, first sow'd in the Hearts of the People, is a dislike to a *Whiggish* Ministry.

Sir R. C. No doubt on't: And of the same Nature were the *Partition-Treaty*, and that of *Ryswick*; in neither of which any due regard was had to the Trade or Naval Concerns of *England*. Could you imagine it did not disgust all thinking Men, to see you make the War so big, and to observe at the same Time, how fiercely you obstructed all Motions that tended to inquiring into the Quota's of our Confederates, in order to lessen our own Burthen? Have you not all along loaded us, to spare them? If a good Patriot, provok'd at your lavish Proceedings, did now and then ask, What Fleet the *Dutch* had fitted out last Year? Did not you silence him with your Words of course, *Pensioner of France*, or *Friend to the Pretender*? But to come closer to you, Is not the World convinc'd, That the House of *Austria* must some Time since, have been in the intire Possession of the *Spanish* Monarchy, if a reasonable proportion of our Expence, of our Fleet, and of our Troops, had been apply'd to the reduction of *Spain*, in a competent Time after the glorious Victory obtain'd by the Duke of *Marlborough* and Prince *Eugene* upon the *Rhine*? And, That if this Measure had been taken, we might four Years ago, have had a safe, lasting and honourable Peace, by which the

Nation would have sav'd at least Twenty Millions.

Sir T. D. 'Tis more than probable.

Sir R. C. *France* was stunn'd with the Stroke receiv'd at *Blenheim*: And it may safely be laid down, That the Strength of that Kingdom was so broken in that Battle, as not to repair it self in some Time; for the Efforts they have since made, seem rather the effects of Despair, than the results of sober Councils, and look like the last Struggles of an expiring Empire, with a strong Body. While the *French* were under the first Terrors and Consternation of that Blow, if they had seen *England* preparing with a good Fleet, and a competent number of Troops to invade the *Spaniards* in their *West-Indies*; if they had found we were sending powerful Reinforcements to *Spain*, where *Philip* had then no firm Footing, the Grandson must have quitted those Dominions, and the Grandfather must have been reduc'd to sue for Peace.

Sir T. D. I doubt this is obvious.

Sir R. C. Was not this last War begun to recover the *Spanish* Monarchy, which had been treacherously seiz'd, in virtue of a forg'd Will? Why then was it so much neglected? The *French* King had no such Reasons to dread our Progress in *Flanders*, where he had so many strong Garrisons to employ our Force, which you see have held us in play from 1704, notwithstanding so many great Victories, and that we have form'd so many, and all successful Sieges. But he has had all this while, an opportunity to gain the Benefits that arise from



from Time. And in this Lottery of War, he has been more than once very near drawing the best Prize. Besides, he might well think it some relief, to have no more upon his Hands than this defensive War in the *Netherlands*, tho' he has been so often baffled in it. Whereas, if he had seen himself in apparent Danger to lose *Spain* and the *West-Indies*, the only Jewels worth this sharp Contention, he must long since have submitted to any Terms.

Sir T. D. But was it safe and feasible to invade *Spain* and the *West-Indies*, and leave *Holland* expos'd to the Power of *France*?

Sir R. C. There could be no danger in it: For after such a Battle as had been gain'd in *Germany*, it could not have been difficult to manage a defensive War in *Flanders*, while the main Business and ultimate End of the Confederacy, the reduction of *Spain*, was depending. Besides, by a War of this Nature, we should have necessitated the Emperor, the Princes and States of *Germany*, and the *Hollanders*, to have exerted themselves a little more than they have hitherto done; whereby *England* would have been eas'd, and not have born more than its due proportion in the Expences. Such a War would have enrich'd the Subalterns and common Soldier, to whose Share, as yet, little has fallen, but Wounds, Death, and Honour. And as to invading the *West-Indies*, the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth* shews how easie and profitable those Expeditions were, and what Masses of Gold and Silver were brought from thence. And  
confi-

considering how much weaker the *Spaniards* are now, than they were in that Age, 'tis more than probable, that an attempt there would have paid its own Charges.

Sir T. D. Perhaps I, and other Sharpers of the City, might have been brought into such an Enterprize, in hopes of catching a Galleon or so.

Sir R. C. And as to *Spain*, how practicable it was to reduce it, appears from what my Lord *Peterborough* did there, without Troops, Money or Credit, in any degree proportionate to such an Undertaking; and, which was worse, without any Favour or Countenance from hence; nay, I may justly add, with such Discouragements, as must have sunk any Man, but one of his noble Spirit and boundless Courage. Why were his heroick Actions so ungratefully repaid? Why was it almost a Crime to Name him, unless with Words of Reproach, of which you *Whigs* were very free, while he was absent; and this at a Time when he was so much applauded by the common People, who being bias'd by no Interest, judge and speak truest? Why did your Emissaries so industriously censure his Conduct, which had been so successful? For what Reasons was he recall'd? How came it to pass, that at his return, his Innocence must have been oppress'd by the Power of Faction, if the Church-Party had not stuck closely to him? I would fain know the real Cause of all this, if it be not among those Secrets you say you reserve in *Petto*?

Sir

Sir T. D. No; the Original of his ill-usage may be communicated. We did not like the Man: He went too fast for us. We were afraid he would have ended the War too soon, which did not agree with our Measures. If the reduction of *Spain* had produc'd a Peace, it had spoil'd our Harvest, and we should have lost these last four Years, which have been the very best of all our Crop. Besides, we had one insuperable Objection against the Earl, we were not to support a General constituted at a Time when the Church-Party had some Credit, and who in a manner was of their designation.

Sir R. C. But let me tell you, your Usage of that Great Man was no small Ingredient tending to render your Administration odious; which, whatever Conceptions your Faction may have, was never truly popular. The late King, who had an excellent, and a very discerning Judgment, was more than once obliged to drive you from Power, tho' by your servile Compliance with the *Dutch* Interest you got in again. You had, indeed, some Popularity, on account of being thought always ready to supply the War; but it was only among those who did not fathom your Designs, nor see what Gainers you were by it; and from the Taxes and Employments it produced; all inquisitive Men perceived, that this Zeal of yours rather respected your private Advantages, than the publick Good. Whoever consider'd how many *Modern-Whig* Mushrooms were grown up in Ten Years, would have thought it monstrous to have  
seen



seen them unwilling to raise Money. And as to the Church of *England* Party, tho' they might now and then differ with you in Opinion about Ways and Means, did they ever oppose you in the Main, tho' excluded from all Profits arising by the War? But where was your Popularity, when the Peace of *Ryswick* was concluded? The Elections for the New Parliaments that follow'd, plainly shew'd, how the People stood affected to you; where, notwithstanding the long Power you had enjoy'd, and the vast Wealth you had acquir'd, you could not be a major Part in any material Point. On the contrary, when your Actions came a little to be look'd into, you were harrass'd, accused, and almost brought to the very brink of Ruin.

Sir T. D. Perhaps *Legion*, and several inflaming Papers, I and some others publish'd about that time, might set Men against us.

Sir R. C. 'Twas not a few Errors, but a long Series of ill Conduct, that has lost you the Peoples Hearts. The little care you shew'd of Property, was visible in your Settlement of the *East-India* Trade, and in your Proceedings against Sir *Charles Duncomb*, where *Helmsey* was sav'd but by a single Voice. The small regard you had to the Liberty of the Subject, was seen in your frequent Suspensions of the *Habeas Corpus* Act, and in your long Oppositions to the Bills for regulating Tryals in Treason, and for Triennial Parliaments; and the Zeal you shew'd for keeping up a standing Army in time of Peace. Your love of Liberty (whereof one of the most essential Parts

Parts is, Freedom of Speaking and voting in Parliament) was seen in your depriving every Sessions some worthy Gentleman or other of his Employment, because he did not vote as you *Whigs* would have him.

Sir T. D. Was not the same always practis'd by the Court?

Sir R. C. This Mark of Dis-favour was rarely put upon Gentlemen merely for their Votes, unless they gave Instances of a general Disaffection to the Government. Add to this, your frequent removing from the Ministry and inferior Stations, Men of the greatest Birth, Abilities, Experience and Interest in the Kingdom, without vouchsafing any other Reason for this, than *That the Necessity of the Q---n's Service requir'd it*; who saw well enough your Party was driving Her most faithful Servants from Her, tho' at that Season, like good King *David*, She could do no more than think. *I am this Day weak, tho' anointed King; and these Men the Sons of Zerviah be too hard for me.* When you were turning out on the score of Party, did you not forget old Ties of Friendship, all sense of Gratitude for past Services, and all Consideration of what would be said of your Proceedings? If I am not mistaken, at once you remov'd from the Council sixteen or seventeen Persons. But of all the unaccountable Steps you made, I have often wonder'd how you would venture to disoblige so great a Man as the Duke of *B---ham*. The regard you could not but see the Q---n had for him, might well have brought

brought the influencing Men of your Party to court such a Companion in the Government, tho' he was not willing to concur in all your Measures: What could his quitting the high Post he had produce, but a Jealousie that you were doing things that could not bear the Search of his deep and piercing *Judgment*? And were you not in daily fears of his strong way of speaking, which could lay you all so open, whenever he pleas'd? The same judicious *Management* made you turn many Men of great *Quality* and *Fortune* out of the *Commissions of Peace*, and *Lieutenancy* (who seem to have a Right to those Stations, of what Party soever they be, provided they are not justly accused of some notorious *Disaffection* to the State) and planting in their rooms many of the errantest Scoundrels you could pick up.

Sir T. D. I my self in the Counties near *London*, within these three Years (let me see my *Pocket-Book*) have recommended 196.

Sir R. C. I suppose you likewise thought to draw to you the Affections of the People, by attacking your Sovereign in that part of Her Authority, of which from Her Grandfather's Example, She ought to be most Jealous, I mean Her Prerogative to Call and Dissolve Parliaments, and to choose Her Ministers, as She judges most expedient for the Publick. 'Tis well enough known, that at the Instigation of some great Men, private Persons have presum'd to go to their Prince, and, in a manner, lay down to Her Rules of Government, in Matters of the highest Importance, with Insinuations, as if what they said, was the  
Sense



Sense of the *Bank of England*; and this without consulting that Body of which they had the Honour to be Members. But the *Bank* is too wise not to disclaim this Insolence, or to dare to interpose in Points of so nice a Nature; and if ever they should take upon 'em to do it, their Influence, (in other respects great enough) would beget a reasonable Terror in the Kingdom, and awaken the Parliament to prescribe Limits to the Exercise of such a Power as was never intended in their Constitution.

Sir T. D. However, we hoped this would fright the Court in that Juncture.

Sir R. C. I suppose you had the like Thoughts, when you procur'd Memorials to the same purpose from some foreign Princes and States. I am no bad Historian, and yet I never remember such a Treatment among Equals. Instances there are, that this has been done by superior Powers to inferior, which yet was never submitted to; but thanks be to God, that is far from being our Case; and if the Q—n is not look'd upon by all *Europe*, to be the Head of the Confederacy, and to make the noblest Figure in it, She has but a hard Bargain, who contributes much the largest share to support this Alliance. But I take it for granted, your Party had suggested to their Correspondents abroad, that they had reduced the Power and Dignity of the Crown so low, that any affront would be indur'd with Patience.

Sir T. D. I am afraid these two false Steps have help'd to make us odious, especially among those, who have any regard to the Honour,

Honour of the Nation, and whose Blood rises to see *Great Britain* so insulted. But in the Consternation we were under to lose our Power, we lost our Senses.

Sir R. C. What could all this end in but an utter aversion to your Management ; Except a few among you, who had Honour, Parts and Breeding, was ever a set of Men so Violent and Assuming, as you were, when you had Power ; or so clamorous against the Administration, when it was not in your own, or in Hands you could influence, or so incompatible with others ? If you thought a Man would not go all your Lengths whatsoever, tho' he voted with you, and concurr'd in your Measures, as to what related to the Publick, he was suspected, whisper'd against, and rail'd at by you. But nothing tended more to fill up the Measure of your Iniquities, than your Behaviour in the Committee of Elections.

Sir T. D. Has it not been the Region of Partiality, for these last Seventy Years ?

Sir R. C. It has so ; but never in so scandalous a degree, as under your Majority. If the Church Party have been guilty of it, 'tis a Fault, all wise and honest Men will think they ought to mend, rather than to retaliate your Injustice, who turn'd out many that constantly divided with you ; for this single Reason, that they were not what you call *Stanch Whigs* : These excluded Members were many of 'em, the most considerable Persons in their Counties. Could the People bear, with any Patience, to have your  
Faction

Faction, and not they themselves, choose their Representatives? And this, in such frequent and odious Cases. Can there be found one Instance, that a Man of so ancient a Family, which has produced two Knights of the Garter, who himself has such great Parts, and was so very useful in the House, and so considerable through the whole Kingdom, and chosen by so plain a Majority, as Sir *S——n H——rt* was in his Borough; I say, can a President be given, that such a one was ever thrown out of *St. Stephen's Chapel*? To return therefore to what I was affirming before; 'tis the wrong Measures you have taken in other Matters, your Profusion in the Publick Treasure, your Partiality, your Corruption, your infamous Libels, your Insolence to the Throne, have lost you the Peoples Hearts, and not the Doctor's Trial.

Sir *T. D.* But never tell me, if that had not happen'd, we might have been permitted to misgovern a Year or two longer, which would have been a good Addition to our former Gains, and my Title would have been conferr'd on me, perhaps in a Month or two: For I forget to tell you of one Circumstance that would have help'd me. I had procured from the *Herald's Office* a Pedigree, wherein I deriv'd my self (how truly the *Heralds* know, for I don't) by the Father's side from the *Brambers*, and by the Mother's from the *Empsons*, Men famous in their Generations, and publick Robbers in former Ages: Certain it is the *Doubles* are of a very ancient House. 'Tis true, some of our Ancestors happening to be hang'd, others to be pillory'd and whipp'd,

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from Tithing to Tithing, the Family fell low, but my successful Industry had rais'd it up again, but for the unlucky Roasting of this Priest.

Sir R. C. It seems then you were mightily frightened at this Meteor hanging so long over your Head.

Sir T. D. Indeed I was, and so Superstitious, as to believe Things would not go well with us for a very long Season after the said 14th of *December*; egad to this instant, I am in a sweat to hear pronounc'd the Word Im——-ment; but like a cunning old Rat, I ran away from the House I saw falling, and dreamt no more of being a Baron. The first thing I did was to draw my eight thousand Pound out of the Hands, where, with such Wisdom and Court-Knowledge, I had plac'd it. The next step I made, was, to sell my four-score thousand Pound of *Bank* and *East-India Stock*; at the same time persuading as many of my Gang, as I had any Influence over, to do the like. And, Sir *Richard*, I will let you into a Secret, which, I believe, is reveal'd to very few; our pouring out such vast Quantities, is the true Cause why the *Stocks* of late are sunk. Would any *Whig*, with Brains in his *Skull*, have kept *Stock* when it was at so high a Price? No, we knew the old Saying, *When a Shoulder of Mutton is stirring, 'tis good to have a slice at it*. And perhaps 'tis like to prove the best Morsel remaining to us.

Sir R. C. As how, I pray?

Sir T. D. When the *Comet* newly mentioned had appear'd, and we plainly saw what an Influence it was like to have; and when we found

found how many of us were in danger to lose our Posts, we deem'd it advisable to embroil Matters as much as ever we could; to put all possible Rubs in the way of any new Administration, and to endeavour to raise such a Storm, that no body should dare to handle the Sails, or steer the Ship. In order to this, upon the Change of a Minister or two, we fell to groaning over our Coffee, and at Taverns over our Wine: I my self, who have Tears at Command, was seen to blubber like a Child newly corrected. My Tone was, the Nation is ruin'd, the Confederacy must break, and there is no hope of Peace. Had we been suffer'd a little longer to hold all the Employments of Profit and Trust this Campaign, *France* had been over-run, and their King driven to make a Journey to *Madrid*, to pull his Grandson out of the Throne with his own Hands. But now all is lost. If we are dissolv'd, is there a House of Commons to be found that will save their Religion and their Country? Who but we are able to find out Taxes? Are not we to be best trusted in raising Money, who are sure to have our selves so large a share of what we give? In short, the Kingdom's undone, 'tis time to get rid of what you have in the publick Funds, and to sell your *Stocks*.

Sir R. C. But did this Bite pass?

Sir T. D. Bravely; we sold all we had; we borrow'd of our Friends whatever we could; we lent Money upon all the Stocks we met with; all which was in order to have a sufficient Parcel to glut the Market, as often as was judg'd expedient. When

this was done, I commanded the *Observer* and the *Review*, to descant upon the Publick Credit, and to shew, that by the Talk of a Dissolution, and of Changes in the Ministry, *England* had lost full Three Millions in the Article of Stocks.

Sir R. C. I, who have lately been but a Country Gentleman, understand so much, that to repair this dreadful Damage, will not cost the Nation Three Pence.

Sir T. D. No matter for that, we hop'd it would serve our Turn to fright the City. At the same Instant, I sent all the dismal Accounts I could rake together, piec'd out with Inventions of my own, to all my Correspondents in *Holland*, in hopes to raise the like Alarms there, and create the same Fears; which, I imagin'd, would bring the *Jews* in Shoals to *Jonathan's*, with their Stocks, *East-India* Bonds, Tallies, Annuities, and Lottery-Tickets.

Sir R. C. But I fancy you were smok'd by that wise People the *Dutch*.

Sir T. D. No faith; some of 'em were catch'd: My main Drift was to depreciate all Funds whatsoever, so to bring a general Call upon the Bank, whereby we hop'd to occasion the Appearance of a full Stop in Publick Credit, which must needs have turned to our Account; who by having had the Robbing of the Kingdom for above Twenty Years, are become Masters of so large a share of the ready Cash. If it could have been brought to pass, to have reduc'd Tallies to 40 per Cent. discount, Stocks to 10 per Cent. below the *Par*, Annuities to 13 Years purchase,



chafe, and the other Funds to a proportionable Fall; we would have come in with our ready Money, and had bought up all we could have laid our Hands on.

Sir R. C. You had done discreetly.

Sir T. D. For my own part, I do not intend to stay so long; as soon as I see them sunk 5 or 6 *per Cent.* below their present Price, I shall begin to lay in my Parcel. So that let the worst happen to us that can happen; suppose the Calamity should befall our Party, of seeing a safe and honourable Peace concluded; or, that we should be visited and afflicted with the sad prospect of *Faction* being quite abolish'd, by the Wisdom and Resolution of the Queen and Her Ministers: We shall however have this Comfort, to have made 20 *per Cent.* by selling out our *Stocks* when the Market was high, and buying them in again when it was low. For no Man can be so undiscerning, as not to know, that any reasonable Settlement in Affairs, I mean a good Treaty, or a War prosecuted with Vigour, must indubitably restore all the Funds to their former value: And fall back, fall edge, we shall be able to answer it to our own Consciences, not to have mis-spent our time, or mis-apply'd the Industry we have us'd to shake the Credit of the Kingdom.

Sir R. C. From what you have said I collect, that all this Noise and Clamour of the Funds falling, and the danger of Credit, was nothing but a Stock-jobbing Business, to trick honest well-meaning People, and to make advantage from Fears you your selves had created.

Sir T. D. Yes, we had another Consideration, merely Political, and of a higher Nature: By blasting Credit, we hop'd to bring insuperable Difficulties upon the Government, and to make it impossible to raise Money to subsist the Troops abroad; from whence must have follow'd no Changes, and no Dissolution. This was the principal Walk in the Interlude, and Stock-jobbing came in but by way of Episod.

Sir R. C. I cannot help smiling at a Thought, That if you had succeeded in your Pretensions to a Barony, you would have been the first Instance of a Person rais'd out of *Jonathan's* Coffee-House, up to the House of Peers.

Sir T. D. Pray mention that no more. I must modestly content my self now to get into the House of Commons.

Sir R. C. How stands your Interest in the County you serv'd for last?

Sir T. D. Fix'd, I think, beyond all Apprehensions of a Disappointment. I took care to get thither early, when the News of a new Parliament had reach'd very few; but I had quick Intelligence.

Sir R. C. And how were you receiv'd?

Sir T. D. Not one Gentleman, and but 7 or 8 of the Clergy (influenc'd by their B——p, who is one of us) notwithstanding my two Coaches and six, my numerous Attendants, my costly Equipage, and the great Post I was known to be in at Court, came near me; but I had a full Appearance of the small Freeholders. 'Tis true, like the Company Sir *John Falstaffe* had newly rais'd, they were

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*exceeding poor and bare, too beggarly; but that's a Fault my Taylor shall mend against Election-day; for the chief of 'em shall have new Cloaths, and each some Lining to his Pockets. As soon as I had alighted, and was shaking my Friends by the Hands, they began to choak me with a Question, How I had behav'd my self in Dr. S———el's Trial?*

*Sir R. C. What Answer did you make?*

*Sir T. D. After a little pause, I resorted to my wonted Confidence; and tho' the contrary was so notorious, I solemnly swore I had all along voted for the Doctor, and at every Debate had made five or six Speeches for him. This pass'd for current; and I proceeded on to treat nobly in every Town of the whole County; wherever I cou'd fix Money, the good Crown-pieces and Guineas flew about; so that between you and I, this Election is like to cost me little less than my former: But what do I value seven or eight Thousand Pounds at such a critical Time as this, when the Sum of Affairs seems to be so much depending.*

*Sir R. C. Methinks you had better have nick'd your time, and bought a Barony.*

*Sir T. D. No more of that I beg you. The first right Step I made, was to split as many Freeholds as ever I could; in which I was assisted privately by some considerable Gentlemen of the County, my Friends, who tho' they were asham'd to own me in Publick, did it underhand: By this I gain'd a great many Voices. Twenty Years ago our County had not above eighteen Hundred Freeholders, but we have brought 'em now*



to four and twenty Hundred, purely by splitting; an Invention which our Party says contributes much to the Preservation of Liberty. Of this number sixteen hundred have engag'd to me their second, and three hundred more, their single Votes; but these single ones cost me Sauce. Thus, you see, my Majority is apparent: But I must own to you, that shake my Tatterdemallions in a Bag together, I don't believe they will come out worth four Pounds a Year apiece, one with another.

Sir R. C. That some of the Boroughs, almost every where, are become mercenary, is but too visible; and in time, perhaps, will be the Ruin of our Constitution. And we have all heard what has been done in the Parts adjacent to this wealthy Town. But I could hardly have believ'd, that such general Corruption had spread itself into Counties so remote as yours is.

Sir T. D. Unless you were an Eye-witness, you can never conceive, what is to be brought about by Industry, guided by Craft, countenanc'd from above, bountifully supply'd, and encourag'd to make an unlimited Expence, which was certain to meet with Reward of some kind or other. Indeed, in this last Election, 'tis hard upon private Persons. Heretofore we had good Assistance; whereas now we are forc'd to do it out of our own Pockets, or resolve to give up the Game; but I hope so mean a Thought will never enter into our Hearts. Thus, Sir, from the Account I have given, you may perceive I shall have no occasion to press upon

upon your kindness to bring me into your Borough, but I would gladly have recommended a Friend of mine.

Sir R. C. Pray who is it?

Sir T. D. 'Tis poor Sir H. M.

Sir R. C. Sir H. M! I thought there had not been two Men in the Kingdom of more different Principles than you and he.

Sir T. D. We differ'd formerly, but his Transaction in the M—ne A—ture has intirely reconcil'd me to him.

Sir R. C. I thought you could make no other use of that Gentleman, but to reproach the Church Party with his Conduct.

Sir T. D. We do so to the Tories; but among ourselves, we know how to value his real Worth.

Sir R. C. And so you encourag'd him to stand at *Cardigan*, to oppose Sir S—n H—t.

Sir T. D. You are rightly inform'd. We made all the Interest, and got all the Recommendation we could possibly procure for him, in which we engaged, let me tell you, no inconsiderable Persons. For we were in mortal Trances at the meer Thoughts of Sir S—n's coming into Parliament, after the Usage he had met with.

Sir R. C. But I believe you wish'd him in the House again, when you heard him at the Bar, defend the D—r with such Strength of Law, force of Reason, and powerful Eloquence.

Sir T. D. We did so; and whisper'd him in as fast as ever we could; for we dreaded no Man alive so much, in the transaction of that Affair.

Sir

Sir R. C. Does Sir H—— M—— stand again there ?

Sir T. D. He seems to have but cold Comfort from thence : But one of such Wealth as I am, cannot fail to get a confiding Person into some Place or other. At the worst, we can put him upon one of the Cities of refuge.

Sir R. C. I am told the Gates will be shut there against your Recommendations.

Sir T. D. They must then be open'd with a silver Key : But if they cannot, I have another String to my Bow. *Monday* last a Corporation-Broker, by Calling an Inn-keeper, of good Substance, came to pay me a respectful Visit, (as all of 'em do as soon as they hear a new Parliament is call'd, to offer me, or any Friend of mine, the refusal of their Ware) ; he assur'd me, he could procure an Election for 250 *l.* I knew the Man was able enough to make his Words good ; however, I thought it prudent to make some pause ; upon which he said, " Sir, I warrant you  
 " think I cannot do the Trick ; but to shew  
 " I am in earnest, I see an honest jolly Fellow (for so he looks to be) now cutting  
 " your Honour's Corns ; do you deposit 250 *l.*  
 " in Bank Notes, against which I will deposit  
 " 500 *l.* I have here in Exchequer Bills, in  
 " Hands we can both trust ; if I do not  
 " bring this Corn-cutter in, you shall have  
 " the whole Money ; but if I do, then I must  
 " have it, and all this to be under Hand and  
 " Seal". I could not help smiling at my Landlord's Proposal, nor to say, " That if  
 " honest *Will* went down, he must lay aside  
 " his shoulder-Belt Gules, powder'd with  
 " strung



“strung Teeth, Ermin, and the other badges  
“and ensigns of his Profession”: But to be  
serious, before I sleep, I intend to strike up  
this Bargain for Sir *H. M.*

Sir *R. C.* In the present juncture, I believe  
you will do him great Service.

Sir *T. D.* But the Rogues have rais'd the  
Market. I know the Place very well; 'Tis  
about threescore Miles from *London*; and I  
am well assur'd One of their last Members  
had it for 220 *l.* Silver. I have another of-  
fer from a distant Borough; if I can bring  
'em down to a hundred, or a hundred and  
fifty Yellow Boys, which will be Dog-cheap,  
I purpose to get my Cozen *J—b T—n* of  
*Grays-Inn Lane*, elected. He is a Wit, and  
much countenanc'd; a Person of weighty Im-  
portance, and if he does not stir over-much,  
will be a very inoffensive Member, in a Win-  
ter-Sessions. He will serve bravely to Ferret  
out such as will have a mind to avoid the  
Question, and none can better rally our  
broken and discomfited Troops.

Sir *R. C.* 'Twill be a Jest indeed, to see your  
Cozen *Jacob* in the House.

Sir *T. D.* What cannot Money compass?

Sir *R. C.* You have been talking to me of  
your great Riches, pray, perform the Pro-  
mise you made me at the beginning of our  
Conference, to let me into the knowledge,  
by what Arts and Means you have accumu-  
lated such a prodigious mass of Treasure.  
When you began the World, you had but  
300 *l.* your Grandmother, Goody *Double*,  
the Furmity Woman's Legacy, which was  
gone in a Trice. I know, when I left the  
Town,

Town, about nine Years ago, you were reckon'd to be worth Fifty Thousand Pound, and now you are number'd among the three Plumb Men, as you call 'em.

Sir T. D. The World reports every One to be poorer or richer than he really is. But as I told you before, two Plumbs and a half I may fairly own; and the noble Purchases I have lately made, are undeniable Proofs, that what I say is true. The greatest part of this immense Wealth I got by having all along had a large share in the Remittances. And I had the Impudence or Dexterity, call it which you will, to affirm, and have it believ'd at Court, that no Body in the whole Kingdom but my self, was able to carry on that Business; so that at last I engross'd it all. Since *England* was *England* there never were such brave Times for getting Money, as we have had for these last twenty Years.

Sir R. C. Indeed you have had a plentiful Crop.

Sir T. D. How could it be otherwise? For since the Revolution to this Year inclusive, the Parliament has given about One Hundred and Thirty Millions; of this Sum, about Thirty Millions is already secur'd by Parliamentary Funds. About One Hundred Millions have been rais'd by Annual Taxes, and were employ'd with the other Thirty Millions, to carry on the Expences of the War. Besides this, there is a Debt upon the Articles of the Navy, Transports, Extra's in *Portugal*, and Deficiencies, &c. what it is, I will not pretend to State; but we, Malecontents, hope, that upon winding up the

bot-

Bottom, it will appear not to be much less than Ten Millions; most of which will fall into our Hands, who have bought up these Debts at a fair Discount, upon a certain Foresight, that they must be provided for, or the Honour and Credit of the Nation will be lost, which, to our Grief, we know the Church-Party will never suffer. Supposing then the Debts, with and without Provision, to be Forty Millions, I will venture to pronounce, That all this vast Sum is clear Gains, which private Persons have made out of the Publick, in the course of twenty Years.

Sir R. C. I agree with you: For the Interest you have in the Funds and Debts, is as much an Estate in the common Traffick of the World, as Land, Houses, or Money lent upon Mortgages; and if so, How could these Estates have been rais'd, but out of what has been levied in Taxes? For few of you have sold your Mannors to buy into the Funds: Except in the Instance of here and there a Rich and Provident Man: four Shillings in the Pound, and the advance in Price, upon all Commodities of Consumption, have left little room for the Nobility and Gentry to save Money, to put into the Funds, for younger Sons and Daughters Portions. And I am confident, the Citizens have little reason to brag of their Gains upon the Head of Trade; from whence follows, that most of these new erected Estates have been made out of the Publick; the result of which is, That the Landed Men, for near 100 Years to come, must lie under Contribution to you, who have had Dealings in the Exchequer.

Sir



Sir T. D. You hit it right; and I have heard a bustling *Whig* in the City, cracking over a Bottle of his Annuities, Stock and Tallies, vapour, That these Forty Millions, which now lie so heavy upon the generality of the whole Kingdom, had been a Booty shared among not many more than Three Thousand Persons: And he argu'd thus; There are, said he, Twenty of us, whose Fortunes, before the happy Revolution, were very Moderate, can now value ourselves, one with another upon a Plumb a piece. There are a Hundred of us, at that time in the like Circumstances, may be reckon'd now, one with another, at half a Plumb. There are a Hundred of us, whose Faces ten Years ago were not known upon the *Exchange*, can now write Twenty Thousand Pound a Man. There are Two Hundred of us, who Twenty Years ago, had not Shooes to our Feet, now ride in our own Coaches, and are worth, one with another, Fifteen Thousand Pound a Man. He proceeded to several other Classes and Subdivisions, which he did, with such admirable Skill and Judgment, and enforc'd, what he laid down, with Arguments so plain, that I was compell'd to admit his Computation to be just and right.

Sir R. C. Nor shall I dispute it. But methinks in this Account, he allow'd very little for the poor Country Gentlemen.

Sir T. D. They who would deserve it in particular, were not forgotten all along; but we never intended to consult their Interest in general. Our Business was to get the Mony out of their Purses, into our  
Pock-

Pockets ; And pray, how was *England* (for we are all for Old *England*) concern'd whether We, or They had it ; We who are active, and upon the Stage of Business, or They who mind nothing but to Drink, Hawk, and Hunt.

Sir R. C. You argue very candidly.

Sir T. D. But to bring this about, we were forced to promote giving whatever was ask'd, and examining into nothing ; both which Duties we perform'd with cheerful Hearts and willing Minds. From the very beginning, we resolv'd to make a great Milch-Cow of the Common-wealth ; and that she might yield the more Milk, 'twas determin'd to throw her into a Field of Clover, where she might have rank Feeding ; and in order to this, without Doors, we never talk'd of less than five or six Millions a Year.

Sir R. C. But once in your Life, deal sincerely. Are you not convinc'd, it had been much better for *England*, if former Parliaments had been more sparing of the Publick Treasure ? If to raise such vast Sums annually, you had not engag'd almost all the Funds, would it not be much more easie to find Ways and Means to pay the Navy, Transports, and other Debts, and to carry on the War ? If your wild Conduct had not stripp'd us so bare, would not several Funds lie open at this Day, to the Uses of the Kingdom ? If 'twas visible to all *Europe*, that *Great Britain*, notwithstanding a War so expensive and long, were still in a Condition to raise about twenty Millions, a Sum  
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(and I am modest in my Computation) which your Party has vainly lavish'd, since you have had the Management of Business; I say, if there were clear Funds remaining, upon which such a Sum might be levy'd, without further Ruin to Trade, or Oppression to the People, should we not discharge our Debts with Ease, and be likewise able to supply the War three Years longer, if the general Interest of the Alliance requir'd it?

Sir T. D. I will not combat undeniable Truths, unless in publick Places, where it may turn to some Account.

Sir R. C. In such a position of Affairs, what a noble Figure *Great Britain* would make Abroad! What Confusion would it not create in the *French* Councils, if they saw us as able as willing, to bring mighty Armies into the Field three Campaigns more! In such a Case, must not their King withdraw his Assistance from his Grandson, and call him Home, without insisting on the Equivalent of *Sicily* and *Sardinia*? I hope the glorious Success wherewith Heaven has been pleas'd to bless Her Majesty's Arms, under the Conduct of Count *Starembergh* and Generals *Stanhope* and *Belcastle*, will render the Reduction of the *Spanish* Monarchy less difficult than it seem'd to be. However, you must grant it would have been much easier in such a posture of our domestick Affairs, as I have mention'd. Had we been in this prosperous Condition, we might doubtless have given the Law; and what Terms of Peace we had been pleas'd to prescribe, must have been yielded to us; nor, would the *Funds*,

*Stocks*



*Stocks*, and *Tallies* have sunk in Value, nor durst the *French* have shuffled as they did at *Gertrudenberg*, in a Treaty of Peace, which, by the way, has been seldom observ'd in any Age to hang long, but where both sides had some secret Reasons, or private Interest to protract it.

Sir T. D. From this Hint I gather, you suspect the Treaty was interrupted from a nearer View the *French* had by conversing with the *Hollanders*, how much Affairs here had been disorder'd and broken, thro' the Conduct of our Party, and that our side was not over fond of Peace, which might beget Inquiries.

Sir R. C. 'Twas indeed enough to encourage our Enemies, and dishearten our Friends, to consider into what a Condition you have reduced *England*. 'Twill puzzle the ablest Heads in the Nation to find Funds for all the Sums that of Necessity will be wanting. You have left little for Industry, Care and Wisdom to work upon. However, I hope, all good Men will cheerfully apply their Minds to it, and concur, as well in Opinion, as in their Endeavours, to extricate the Government out of those Difficulties into which your Conduct has brought it in the compass of twenty Years; for so long, with very short Intervals, your Party has had the Power. And if your side do not clog the Wheels of that Charriot they are not suffer'd to drive, I make no doubt but a Church of *England* Ministry will be able to carry on the War, 'till a safe and honourable Peace can be establish'd.

Sir T. D. All I ask of 'em is, but to stay till I have brought my odd Sum of two Plumbs and a half, to a square one of four Plumbs;

which, in three Years I was in a fair way of doing, and then let 'em make an end when they think fit.

Sir R. C. You might see, by some late Transactions at the Treasury, that they are trying, as fast as they can, to free themselves from the Clutches of such as you are.

Sir T. D. 'Twill cost more pains than you imagin, for we have render'd things sufficiently perplex'd.

Sir R. C. 'Tis evident you have; and I know the *Modern Whigs* give out, that the seeming damp upon Credit, and the interruption of the Treaty, proceed only from the Change of Measures, the Alterations lately made at Court, and the Dissolution of the Parliament. But can you think to impose this upon Men of Sense, who understand the common Business of the World as well here, as in other Countries? Can you imagin, by these notorious Falshoods, to blind the Eyes of any but a few weak and fearful Persons, who hardly know their own Minds three days together? And pray, who chiefly promote these Notions, but such to whose Profit it must needs turn, that the War should last many Years longer, or such who have Designs they dare not own? As to Credit, Is it not apparent, beyond all contradiction, that it receiv'd its last Wound (for it has had more than one) when the Descent upon *Scotland* was intended? But did the Church-Party advise some Gentlemen to have the Cramp in their Hands, when a Call, scarce amounting to Eighty Thousand Pounds, had been made upon 'em? Or did the *Tories*, as you call 'em, promote the Motions made in another place to preserve Credit? I have heard  
the

the Church-Party were wise enough to know; she is a shy Lady, never to be Ravish'd, and not safely to be Courted; all that her Lover can do, is, not to receive her too eagerly, when she is pleas'd to make approaches to him

Sir T. D. I never lik'd the Step our Party made in that Matter, and was cunning enough to oppose it below; so did a few more, but we were out-number'd. I knew it would have broke my private Back, who have great Dealings in the World, if a Vote had pass'd in the Common-Council of London, *That whoever designedly endeavours to destroy or lessen the Credit of Sir Thomas Double, Knt. especially at a time when the Kingdom is threatned with an Invasion, is guilty of an high Crime and Misdemeanour, and is an Enemy to Her M——ty and the Kingdom.*

Sir R. C. During this Transaction, was not a Whiggish Ministry in the ample Possession of more Power than was ever trusted to any Set of Men? Did they not dive as deep into the Pockets of the Kingdom, as they could possibly desire? Whose Advices but theirs were follow'd? Did not they turn in and out whom they pleas'd? And had they not a general Influence over all the subordinate Parts of Government? With what Face then can your Party charge upon others, the accidental Misfortune of Credit being low at present? I hope 'tis only accidental; if it be not, perhaps you may be call'd upon hereafter, to give some account, how the Species of Mony, the Foundation of Credit, is come, ev'n since Clipping, to be so much diminish'd in the Kingdom: Could you wonder to see Credit abate, when you had exhausted the Nation of its Coin, by putting the War upon so large a Foot, that



none but such a Trading Country as ours is, could have supported the Expences of it half this time? Did you believe your Neighbours abroad were ignorant of your Condition, and Strangers to your Conduct; and is there not cause to suspect, that they look'd upon your Party as Prodigals in the Publick Treasure, no further to be trusted but with Caution? Might not this Consideration likewise induce People at home, to call in part of their Effects from the Government, when they saw you were running the Debts to so immense a Total?

Sir T. D. I cannot help allowing, that the Posture of our Mony Matters must be known in Foreign Parts. The Ways we make use of to raise it, and the Nature of our Funds are such, that what we do therein cannot be a Secret. And, no doubt, our daily Intercourse with *Holland*, and their free Trade with *France*, reveal things, which, in State-Prudence perhaps should be conceal'd; so that when Credit is low here, and sinking lower, the *French* must needs know it.

Sir R. C. But I absolutely deny, that 'tis so low as you would have the World believe: 'tis peradventure sick, but you cannot so much as pretend 'tis past Recovery. Our Funds have always had a fluctuating Value, which most commonly has been rather govern'd by Fancy, than the Rules of Reason, of which I remember one remarkable Instance. The Victory of *Blenheim* gave wise and thinking Men the first hopes of coming out of this War with Honour and Advantage; yet within three days after we had receiv'd that glorious News, *East-India* Stock fell, and continued falling for a Year, till there was lost, in that  
and

and other Stocks, more Millions than will make up the *Observer's* Calculation ; but all the while what *Richard* lost, was got by *Robert*, and the Nation did not suffer. Nothing can be more absurd than to imagin, that Stocks will rise or fall in a regular Course, according to the good or bad Posture of our Affairs ; and I am afraid the *French King* is too sagacious, to make their Price his *State-Barometer* for the *English* Climate.

Sir T. D. By what I could discern, who am no incompetent Judge of *Exchange-Alley*, having liv'd there so many prosperous Years, the true reason of Stock's falling at that time was, that Men believ'd this Success would encourage and induce a Gallant and Martial People, as the *English* are, to prolong the War upon so fair a prospect ; whereas nothing could give Estates of that nature such a high and settl'd value, as a well-establish'd Peace. But I am inclin'd to think, if such a Victory had been follow'd the Year after, with a powerful Expedition into *Spain*, under the Conduct of the same wise and successful General, the D——ke of M——ugh, whose victorious Arms have so entirely broken the *French* Power, there would have been no sinking in the Funds. On the contrary, 'tis more than probable, Stocks at this Instant would have been 50 per Cent. higher than they are at present.

Sir R. C. Beyond all dispute, these sort of Effects fall or rise, as the Hopes of Peace are remote or near. But suppose Credit at a lower Ebb than really it is, Can that be any Guide to the *French* Councils ? You and I very well remember, about the time of the *Re-*

*coinage*, that most Tallics were at 40 or 50 per Cent. *disc. Bank* Notes at 18, Stocks not at half their present Value, Publick Credit, as to common Opinion, in a despairing Posture, yet, in the midst of these Calamities, the *English* Mettle was so unbated, and their Courage and Resolution so determin'd to carry on the War, that the Pride of *France* was reduced to seek the Peace of *Ryswick*; upon the Conclusion whereof, all Things took fresh Life, and flourish'd again in the *Exchequer*, and at the *Exchange* of *London*.

Sir T. D. About that time, by those Discounts and By-Ingraftments into the *Bank*, most of our Party laid the Foundation of their Fortunes.

Sir R. C. You thought lately to plunge us once more into the like Condition, and to reap the same Advantages by it. But I hope you will find your selves disappointed. I make no doubt, you have represented, by your Emissaries abroad, not only that we are beggar'd, but that our Home-Divisions are grown to an excessive Height, by the Changes and the Dissolution. Admit we are divided, did you so administer as to make it possible for the People to have been of one Mind, unless they would all have patiently submitted to your hard Yoke? But what Advantage has *France* hitherto derived from these our Home-Divisions? Have we not always united, when the Question was to oppose the exorbitant Growth of that Empire? Have we often differ'd about what Number of Troops should be rais'd, or what Fleets should be fitted out? And in these Instances, Has it not been generally left to the Ministers, who-

ever



ever they were, to make their own Demands and Propositions? And when have their own Estimates been disallow'd?

Sir T. D. Upon two or three Occasions not worth mentioning.

Sir R. C. Is it possible then, that Foreign Councils can form any Resolutions upon, or gather any Hopes from the domestick Jarrings of a People, who have rais'd about a Hundred and Thirty Millions, with scarce any Division, upon the main Question, in upwards of twenty Years? Have not both sides constantly join'd, when Supplies were to be granted? Has either side had Strength enough to lose ponderous Money-Bills? And have they been often laid upon the Table in the H—se of C——ns?

Sir T. D. Our Endeavours then must be to shew you some fresh Play.

Sir R. C. I know not what Hopes the *French* may entertain from the Rage your Party conceives, to be disappointed in the Ends of their Ambition, and to have lost their Power. But if they flatter themselves with the Fancy you can be able to embroil Affairs, they will do no more than give another Proof, after so many, that they, or those with whom they hold Intelligence, understand nothing of the *English* Genius: And at the End of the next Sessions (or perhaps sooner) when they find how little you can prevail, and how your Arts are defeated by better Patriots, and abler Heads, than your side has yet produced; when they see a good P——nt unanimously dispos'd to heal our Breaches, assert their Prince's just Prerogatives and Authority, relieve the Church from your Underminings, maintain Liberty of Conscience, rescue the Constitu-

tion from the Assaults you have made upon it, and secure the Sceptre in the perpetual Succession of the Protestant Line. Lastly, When it becomes evident, from their Proceedings, that *Great Britain* has sent up a H—se of C——ns, where the landed Interest has much the superior Strength; and where this landed Interest, tho' it pays most to it, is resolv'd, with undaunted Courage, to carry on the War, they will think it to no purpose to contend any longer with us; and their Monarchy so broken and humbled, will be glad, with more strong and pressing Instances, than they have hitherto done, to sue for Peace, which, God be thank'd, they want in much a higher degree than our Country, notwithstanding the long improvident Conduct of a *Whig*-Administration.

Sir *T. D.* But do you suppose we, and the Corporations we can Influence, shall not be able to give you Obstructions in the Article of Credit?

Sir *R. C.* I allow, if you are very spiteful and industrious, you may, for some time, clog the Publick Business, as to Money Matters; but what will you get by it? And Gain we know, is your ultimate End, as well in your Practice as in your Speculations.

Sir *T. D.* I allow 'tis so in general.

Sir *R. C.* Can you be so simple, to imagin, private Men will suffer themselves to be ruin'd in pursuing that Game of Ambition, which some great Persons among you are unwilling to give over? There never was in any Age, a Juncture wherein the Interest of Private Men, was more link'd and involv'd with the Interest of the Publick: Such therefore must be

be mad indeed, and the Poison of their *first* Biting must continue strong upon 'em, who endeavour to disturb the Q—n's Affairs. 'Tis true, the Bulk of your Party consists of busie proling Fellows, that want to fish in troubled Waters, and who would fain be profiting from the Calamities of their Country, as their Predecessors have heretofore done. But you have among you, several fair, well-meaning, discreet, and wealthy Men, who will never co-operate in any desperate Measures that lead to the Destruction of the Whole. For a Season they may be costive, and sullen to see some of their Friends not in Play: But this Humour cannot last long; and 'twill restore 'em to their Understandings, seriously to reflect and consider how much of their Fortunes will be abated, if National Credit should receive any fatal Wound; and chiefly the *Bank of England* is too wise a Body, to be made the Tools of an angry Faction: They know they are the very Children, begotten by the Government, who by all Laws Divine and Human, are bound to relieve and support their Parents when they happen to be in Distress: And when the Ferment subsides a little (as 'tis hop'd it will, after a good P———t is chosen) you shall see the *Bank* will be as ready to assist the Publick, as they have always been; for they are too sagacious not to understand 'tis as much their Interest as Duty; and too circumspect to fail of giving this fresh Proof of their being a Corporation useful to the Kingdom.

Sir T. D. I perceive particular Men fall from us apace in that Point, and begin to lend their Mony.

Sir



Sir R. C. You will daily see more and more of that: We have an active and careful Treasury, which 'tis hoped will contribute to restore as much of Credit, as might be impair'd by the late Changes. The greatest present weight upon our Credit, and which will be hardest to remove, is the Debts of the Navy, Transport and Victualling, the Effects of your loose Management for several Years. I have not my Papers about me, but I know they amount to some Millions. Part of this Debt has no Security at all, and the rest a Provision that will come in remotely; the Consequence whereof must needs be, that there is an excessive Discount upon 'em 20 and 30 *l. per cent.* but less, according to the nearer Prospect of Repayment; and therefore, 'tis difficult to find Money upon Tallies that bear but 6 *l. per cent.* Interest. For such Extortioners as you, and many others are, keep your Cash for Bargains that will yield you the largest Profit. If some Fund could be found out, that might secure an Interest for those Debts, they would Sleep quietly 'till the War was over, and they would soon come to a nearer Equality in price with Tallies, which would very much contribute to revive and fix Credit.

Sir T. D. My Scrutore is cram'd with Navy, Victualling Bills and Tickets, and therefore you may be sure of me in any Proposal of that Nature.

Sir R. C. It shall not be for your Sake, who are Rich enough already, but for the Poor and the publick Good, that I bend my Thoughts upon it: But we'll talk of this more when we meet next.

Sir T. D. Then you think the Government will extricate it self out of all these Difficulties.

Sir R. C. I can never doubt but *Englishmen* will save their Country. And as low as your Party think Credit, you see what a generous and handsome Thing was lately done by some particular Gentlemen, in relation to the Remittances; I mean Sir Th——re Ja——sen, Mr. H——re, Mr. St——rd, Mr. L——rt, Mr. Gi——ns, and some others, who are not come to my Knowledge. They advanc'd a considerable Sum at a Time, when Mony you know was scarce enough, for the Subsistence of the Troops Abroad, and at easier Terms than could ever satisfy Sir H——y F——ese.

Sir T. D. Mr. B——ges the Pay-M——r of the Forces, very industriously promoted that Service, for which we Con him not much Thanks.

Sir R. C. The House of *Chandos* has been Fortunate in their Services, particularly to the Queens of *England*. The Ancestor, from whom this Branch derives it self, *Charles*, was his Brother's Deputy-Lieutenant of the Tower, when the Warrant was brought to put Q——n *Elizabeth* to Death; which he refus'd to Execute, 'till he had spoken with King *Philip* and Queen *Mary* in Person, alledging, the Order might be surreptitious. This Delay gave room for Compassion, or change of Measures, so that by his virtuous Boldness, he preserv'd the Honor of One, and the Life of the other QUEEN.

Sir T. D. That Family, for some Ages, has been Remarkable for Courage, and many other excellent Qualities.

Sir

Sir R. C. Nor does their Descendent in the least degenerate from this Ancient and Noble Race. For he must be acknowledg'd, by all sides, to be a Gentleman of Parts, Spirit, Generosity and real Worth.

Sir T. D. I shall not value of a Pin all the Schemes your Church M——rs, or Party have form'd, or shall form, to heal the Breaches of the Nation, to revive Credit, and to carry on the War, provided we can be superior in the Elections. If we can but gain that Point, you shall see, by degrees, we will restore that Disorder, Corruption and Mismanagement, which has been all along the Aim of our Designs, and is our proper Region. And to bring this about, we have Libels, Songs and Lists ready in the Press, to defame and blacken all different ranks of Men; nay, we need but reprint what we have heretofore Publish'd. Have we not had the happy Opportunity of giving the Kingdom, for 20 Years, wrong Notions of Men and Things? Have we not the nick Names of *Jacobite*, *Friends to France*, and the *Pretender*, with which to represent good Patriots, and those you call honest old Whigs, whom we hate more than *Tories*, because we know at bottom they never were for pulling down the Constitution? Are we not Masters of a prodigious mass of Wealth, whereby to bribe Counties and Corporations? And are we not free to disperse it in all Places, and among all Persons, where it can be fix'd? This seriously consider'd, I cannot but think we have secur'd the People to our Party.

Sir R. C. But 'tis to be hop'd the substantial Freeholders, honest Citizens, and all others who have right of Election, will weigh against this, what



what Service your Party have all along done their Country : How, merely to gratifie their own Avarice, they have loaded Posterity, for near a hundred Years, with an immense Debt, which might have been prevented by a wise and frugal Administration: How they have suffer'd the vilest Insects of the Land to get that Wealth, which should have provided for younger Children of the best Families : How they have made the Country poor to enrich the City : How they have render'd the Landed Interest, in a manner vassal, and tributary to the money'd Men : How often the *Modern Whigs*, by their Majority, have strain'd or overborn the Laws and ancient Customs in Matters of Elections ; assuming to themselves the Right of choosing Members ; and how they did almost engross the Executive Power. I say, when our Country Neighbours consider of all this, they will not be over-sfond of having Limbs of your Party to be their Representatives.

Sir T. D. I fancy you carry about you some formal List of all our Errors.

Sir R. C. Do you think the Freeholders, at the time of Election, will not remember, what open Attacks, in their Pamphlets and Books, your Party has made upon Reveald Religion ? And how constantly they strove to undermine the Church of *England*, and weaken Regal Authority, which must protect us all ? And lastly, When Representatives are to be chosen, is it to be imagin'd the Electors will not remember the Behaviour of your Party to the most Gracious and Best of Queens ; your Attempts upon Her known Prerogatives ; your Reflections upon Her Proceedings, and Choice of Ministers ; and how you have us'd your utmost Endeavours to fill Her Heart with Cares, and Crown with Thorns ? When all this comes to be put into the Balance against your Tricks, Noise and Bribery, we may safely rest assur'd, the Scale will turn to the better side ; and, that we shall have such a P——t as will courageously defend their Sovereign's Person, Honour and just Rights, and save their Country from the *Machinations* of *France* and your Party.

Sir T. D. But still, you do not give true allowance

ance for the Corruptions we have imprinted in the Minds of so many different sorts of Men, and 'tis there we place our Hopes.

Sir R. C. Then you think your selves Cock-sure of a Majority?

Sir T. D. So all our Friends tell me, and at least of Threescore.

Sir R. C. You may be mistaken.

Sir T. D. If you please, I'll lay you, or any body else, a Thousand Pound on't, and I say *Done* first.

Sir R. C. I shall not back my Opinion with so large a Sum.

Sir T. D. Will you venture Ten *Guineas* to be spent in a Treat at our old Place of meeting, the *Rummer-Tavern* in *Queen-street*?

Sir R. C. Agreed.

Sir T. D. Between us Two, we shall be able to guess at the whole List; and if I see I've lost, I'll make no Caviel, but fairly pay the Reckoning. We both are going to our Elections; let us agree to meet at the *Rummer*, and dine there the 18th of *November* next, by which Time we shall both return: But we Two together shall be as dull Company as we have been to Day; let each of us bring a Friend: I'll invite our old Acquaintance my Uncle *Rook*.

Sir R. C. I remember him very well; the Linnen-Draper that could do nothing in his own Trade, but by being a Broker, and then falling into the Traffick of Stocks and Tallies, they say he is grown exceeding rich.

Sir T. D. Let me tell you, he is now one of our topping Men in the City. Last Week he gave Twenty Thousand Pound with one of his three hatched-fac'd Daughters. He went this Morning into the West, to be chosen. That Man has strange Luck in the World; he has bought an Election for 200 *l.* Wealth, Business, and good Company, have improv'd him very much, and you will think him no bad Companion. 'Twas he gave me the computation I told you of, about the Plumb-Men, and others, who have got Forty Millions out of the Publick, these last twenty Years. No Man understands better than himself, all Things that relate to Trade and the Revenues.

Sir *all*

Sir R. C. And I shall bring with me my Cousin *Trueman* the *Hamborough-Merchant*, who I am sure, has a more comprehensive Head in general, and knows more of those Matters than your Kinsman, and has much a better Character for Probity and Fair-dealing, as well in publick, as in private Affairs.

Sir T. D. When they come together let 'em Cap Skill.

Sir R. C. Neither you, nor your Uncle, *Rook* want Knowledge, or Parts, if you wou'd employ 'em to good Uses, and to serve your Country, instead of turning 'em always to your own corrupt Ends.

Sir T. D. I have thought it more Wisdom to be a Gainer by, than a Martyr for the Publick, as some honest Fools will needs be in all Ages.

Sir R. C. I foresee you and your Uncle will endeavour to impose on *Me* and *Trueman*. But I hope we shall be able to battle it out with you: However so near the Sitting of a P———r, I shall be glad to know what is the Sense of experienced Men, as to Credit, our Debts, Funds, Trade, the Revenues, with other Matters that may come before the H——se. And I know, whenever you go to mislead me, my Cousin *Trueman* will be able to set me right. Sir

Sir T. D. Where my own Interest, or that of my Party is not concern'd, I shall deal with you in a frank and candid manner.

Sir R. C. When we talk together, I shall not forget to make that Distinction. In the mean while, I desire you to set me down at my Lodgings in the *Pall-Mall*.

Sir T. D. I hope you'll do me the Honour to eat a piece of Mutton with me to Day.

Sir R. C. I have promis'd my Wife to Dine with her, and I value my self upon being a good Husband,

Sir T. D. You are too Uxorious. I have hardly spoke to mine these seven Years, tho' we live in the same Street.

Sir R. C. Have you determin'd no sort of Immorality shall escape you.

Sir T. D. My Vices first introduc'd me to the World, and therefore I will stick to 'em. But I love and cherish my Children.

Sir T. D. In you 'tis no Virtue, and nothing but  
Self



Self-Love. In them you contemplate your dear self.

Sir T. D. How came you to get Lady *Theodosia* Comove to Town? I have been told she hates it.

Sir R. C. With much ado I have prevail'd upon her to pass this Winter here; for tho' she is young, lively and not unhandsome, and has such a numerous kindred of the best Quality, she likes Home best; and says, Ladies must live at their Country-Seats while this War lasts, or they will ruin their Families. I suppose you, as well as my self, are for the Country to Morrow.

Sir T. D. My stay here has already been but too long.

Sir R. C. I wish you a good Journey, but you must forgive me, if I do not add good Success, in what you are going about.

Sir T. D. You have us'd the very Words I intended to say to you; but remember our Appointment, we shall have a bitter Conflict. *For the Monied Interest I.*

Sir R. C. And *I for the Landed.*

Sir T. D. Adieu. Sir R. C. Farewel.

F I N I S.

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